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CoII 30/228 'COMMUNAL SITUATION IN PERSIAN GULF.'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/3972
Date(s)	19 Feb 1948-25 Mar 1948 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (4 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



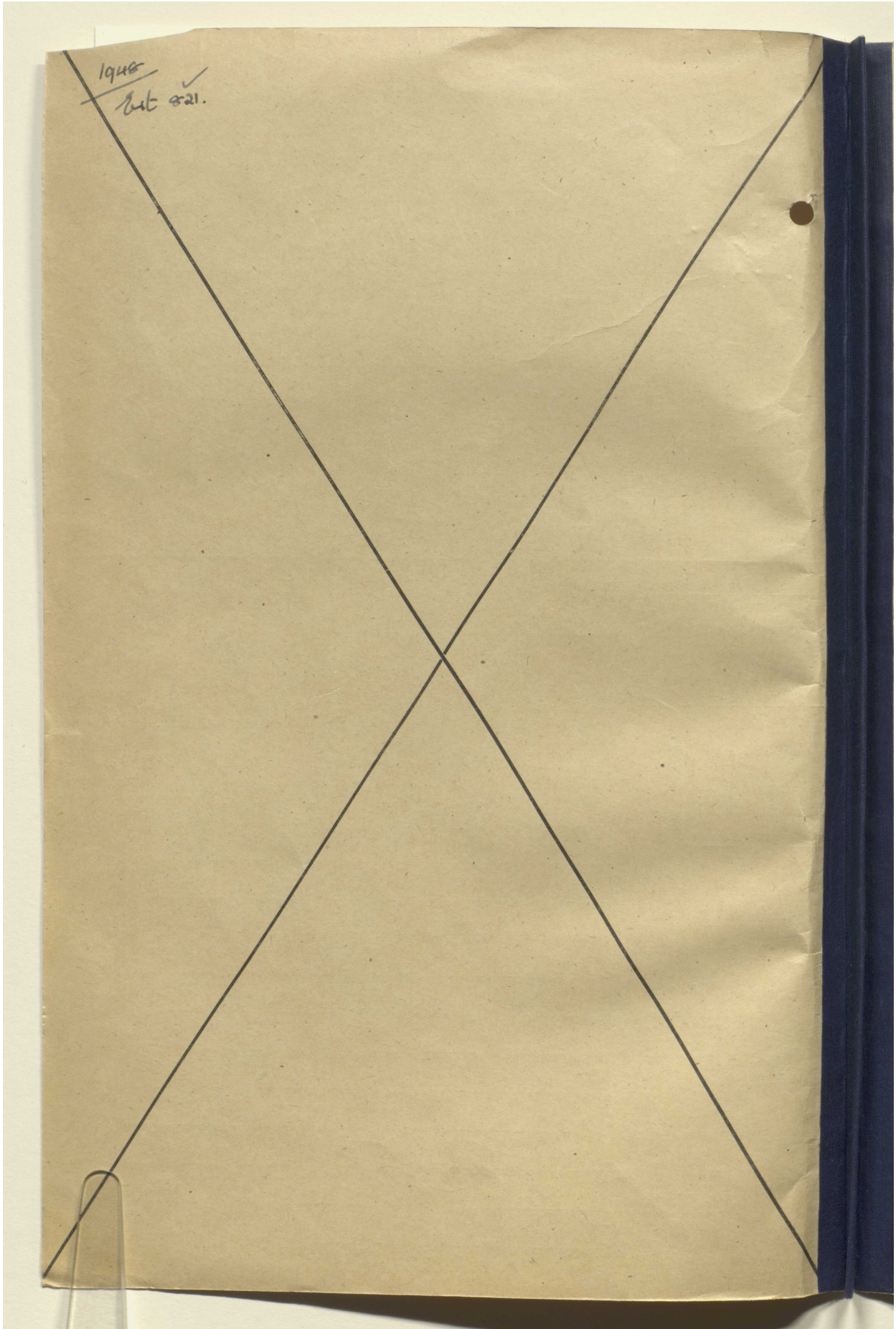
About this record

The file consists of a single item of correspondence from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf (Lieutenant-Colonel Sir William Rupert Hay) to the Commonwealth Relations Office, London, concerning communal relations between Muslims, Jews, Sikhs, and Hindus in the Persian Gulf.

The enclosures to the letter include a copy of a letter from the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations of the Government of India, alleging acts of looting, rape, and murder by members of the Muslim League against the Jewish community in Bahrain, and asking the Resident to take measures to ensure the safety of Indian nationals there. The Resident in response acknowledged that some anti-Jewish rioting had taken place in Bahrain in December 1947, and mentioned rumours of intended attacks by Pakistani Muslim employees of Petroleum Development Qatar against the Company's Sikh employees in Qatar, but felt that no special measures were required for the protection of Indian nationals in the Gulf.

Coil 30/228 'COMMUNAL SITUATION IN PERSIAN GULF.' [front] (1/13)

<p>C.R.O. D.O. 1947 1948.</p>	<p>EXTERNAL DEPT. D.V. B. COLL. $\frac{30}{228}$</p>	<p>INDEX HEADINGS PERSIAN GULF <u>GENERAL.</u></p>
<p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">IOR:L/PS/12/3972</p>		
<p>COMMUNAL SITUATION IN PERSIAN GULF.</p> <p><i>Coll 24/14 ③ Palestine - Supply of information to P.R.P.G. Developments affecting Persian Gulf + Adm.</i></p>		
<p>Previous Connected Papers</p>	<p><i>Mr Harrison . 24/3</i> <i>Register</i></p>	
<p>Subsequent Connected Papers</p>		
<p>Printing Directions</p>		
<p>Wt. 49842/628 4,000 4,47 S.C.W.S. 51-7903</p>		







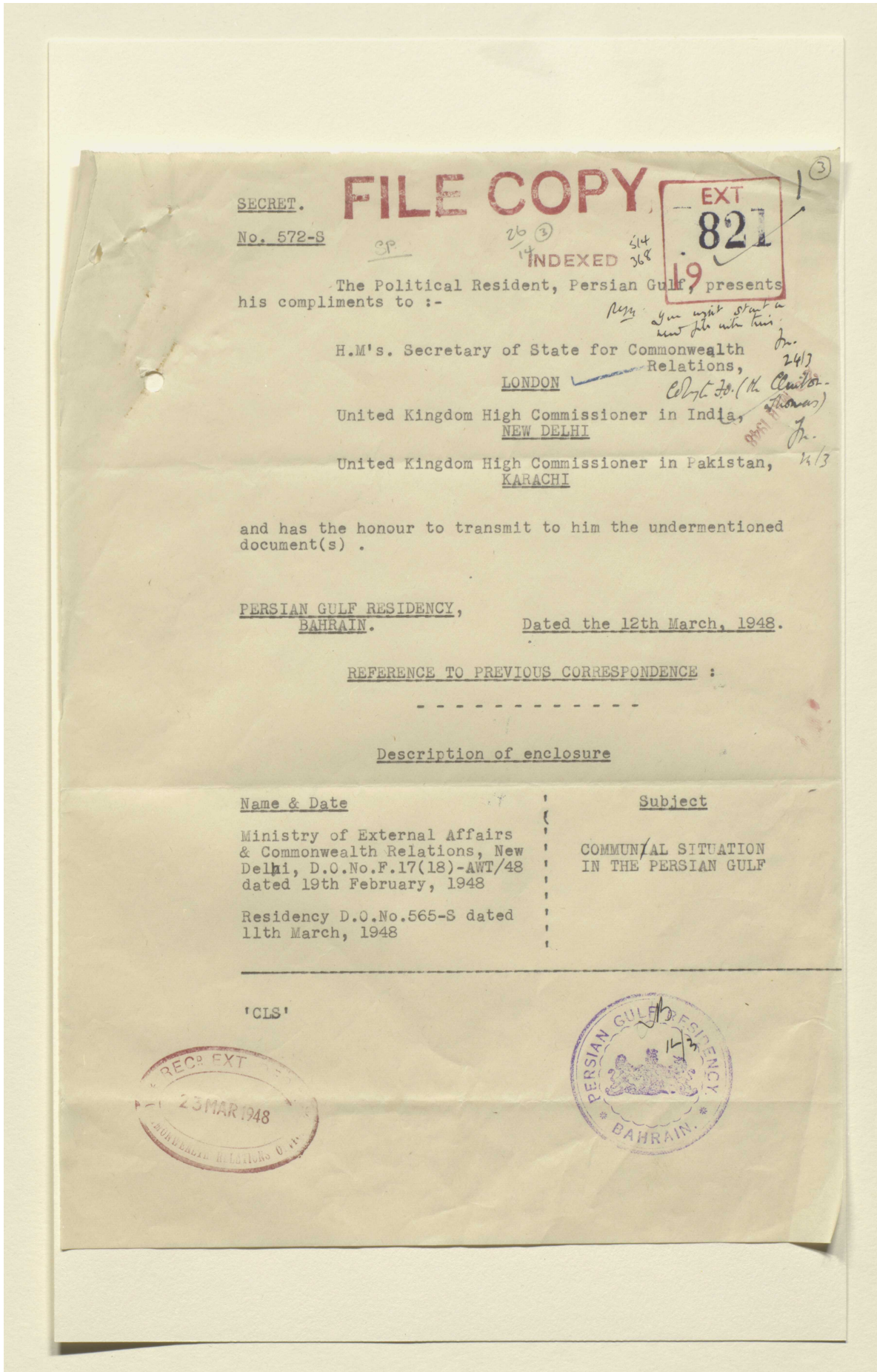
1) Ltr fr P.R.P.G. No. 572-S d/2/3/48

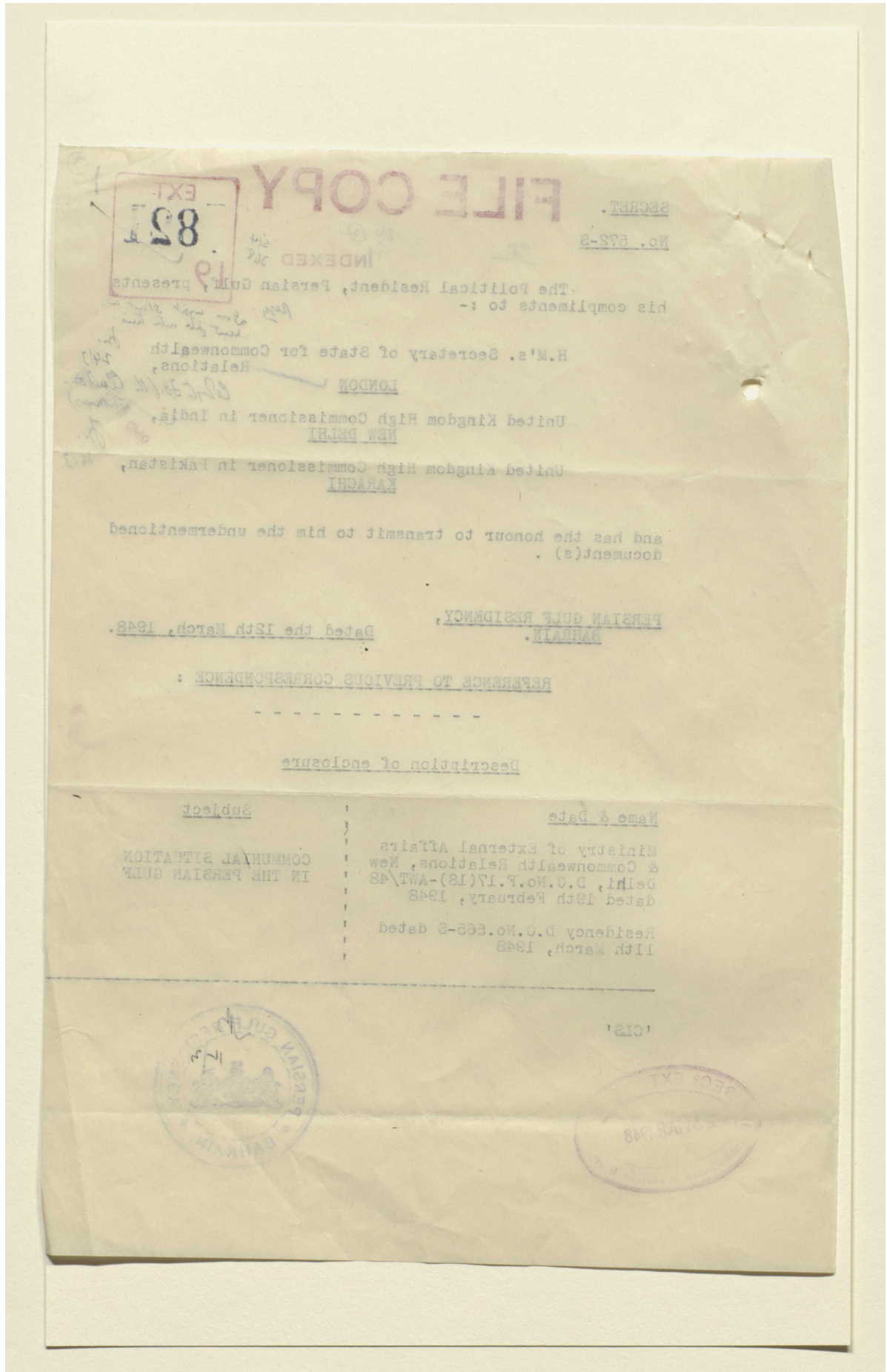
Ext. 821/48.

This is the first we have heard
of communal trouble between
Indians in the Persian Gulf. There
are about 1500 Indians (of Pakistani)
at Bahrain. The Political
Resident of course represents Indian
& Pakistani interests as well as
those of the U.K., ^{under} ~~according~~ the
the present arrangement.

1. 25 MAR 1948
2. Report of I G To.
2. Mr. Gibson to see.
15/3
3. P.A.
15/3

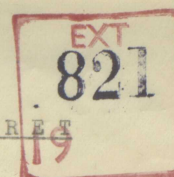
Tom.
24/3.





D.O.No.F.17(18)-AWT/48

SECRET



Ministry of External Affairs and
Commonwealth Relations,
New Delhi 3,
The 19th February, 1948

Dear Sir Rupert,

I reproduce below extracts from a letter dated the
10th January 1948 from the Hindu and Sikh residents of Bahrain:-

"We beg to approach the Government of India....
with the first hand information on the communal situation
in the Persian Gulf, particularly in the Bahrain Islands.

2. Since long time some Muslim Leaguers have been doing
open propaganda against Hindus and Sikhs It reached
its intensity after getting intermingled with the
Palestine agitation. Only a few weeks ago the Jews
were subjected to loot, rape and murder and the repetition
can be expected on the Hindus and Sikhs The local
Arab, Persian and Baluch inhabitants are in full sympathy
with the newly-born 'Muslim Nation'."

We shall be grateful if a fully report on the communal situation
in the Persian Gulf could be furnished to this Ministry, with
your comments.

2. The Government of India would be glad if such measures
as are possible could be taken to ensure the safety of Indian
Nationals in Bahrain.

Yours sincerely,

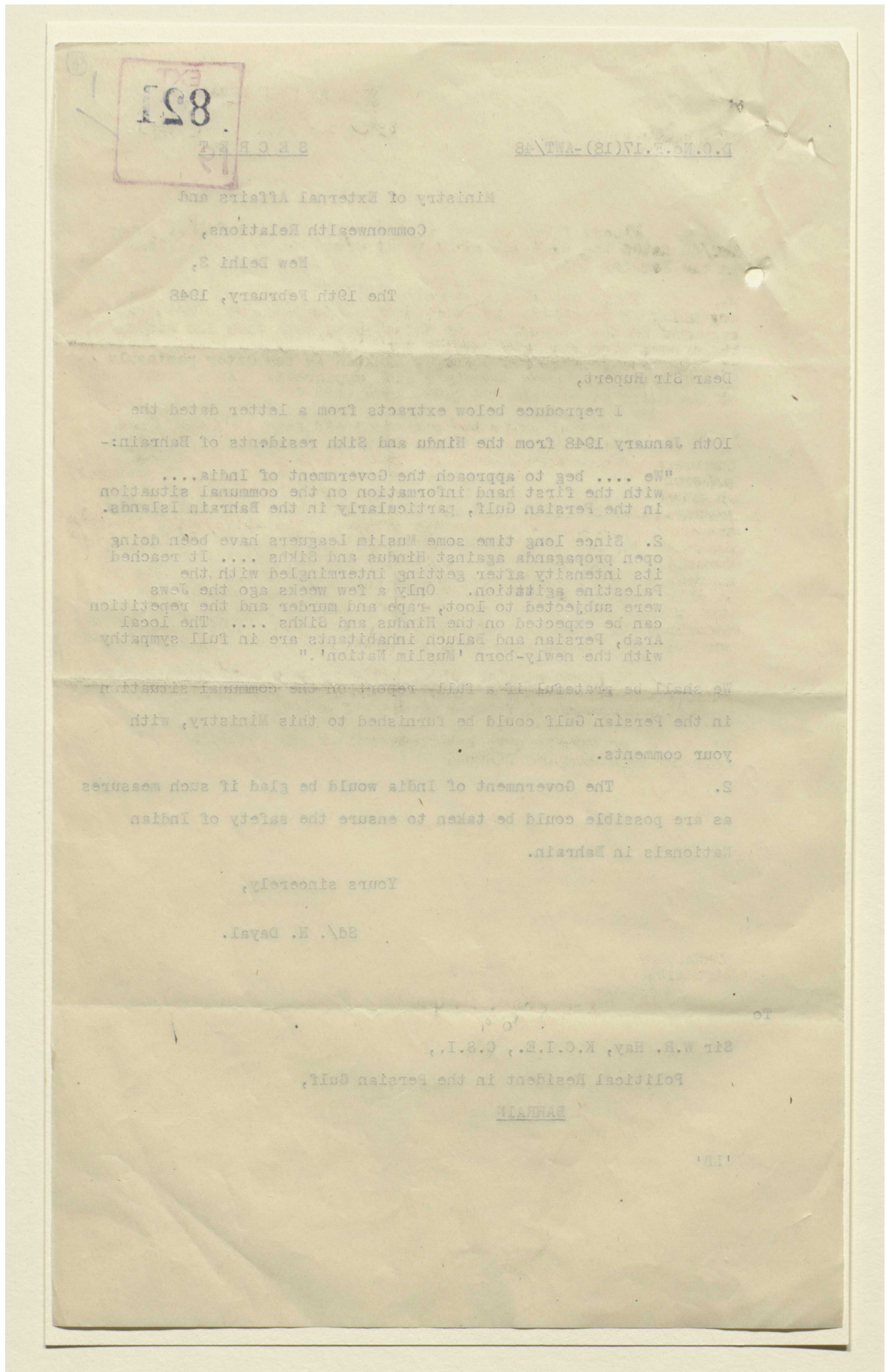
Sd/. H. Dayal.

To

Sir W.R. Hay, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,

BAHRAIN

'LB'



SECRET

D.O.No.565-S

PERSIAN GULF RESIDENCY

BAHRAIN

Dated the 11th March, 1948.

821

19

Please refer to your demi-official letter No.F.17(18)-AWT/48 dated the 19th February, 1948, about the communal situation in the Persian Gulf.

2. There was some anti-Jewish rioting in Bahrain at the beginning of December, and subsequently some anonymous posters appeared in the Manamah bazaar threatening both Jews and Sikhs. There were also numerous rumours that the Pakistani Muslim employees of Petroleum Development (Qatar), Limited in the Qatar peninsula intended to attack the Company's Sikh employees. As a result most of the Sikhs in Bahrain and Qatar have left for India.

3. So far as Indian and Pakistani subjects were concerned to the best of my knowledge up to date there have been no actual incidents of a communal nature. There is no sign of tension between Hindus and Pakistani Muslims and I hardly think it necessary at present to ask the Bahrain Government to take any special measures for the protection of Indian nationals, especially as such measures might have a provocative effect. The anti-Jewish disturbances at the beginning of December arose suddenly and were of short duration. Since then the situation has been normal and there is no reason to think that the Bahrain Government's police would not be able to deal quickly and effectively with any communal trouble that may arise. Should however the situation show any signs of deteriorating I will do my best to see that all possible measures are taken to ensure the safety of Indian nationals in Bahrain.

4. In Qatar special police officers have been appointed from amongst the Oil Company's employees and given powers to enable them to deal with communal trouble should any arise.

5. No reports have been received of any communal trouble elsewhere in the Gulf States.

Sd/- W.R. Hay.

H. Dayal, Esquire,
Ministry of External Affairs &
Commonwealth Relations,
Government of India,
NEW DELHI

'LB'

