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'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah'

Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Reference	IOR/R/15/5/217
Date(s)	16 Aug 1944-4 Jun 1946 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English and Arabic in Latin and Arabic script
Extent and Format	1 file (23 folios)
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>



About this record

This file contains correspondence regarding an unofficial visit to Egypt that was made by Shaikh Fahad bin Salim al-Sabah and his desire to export two cars and a number of tyres from the country back to Kuwait. Some of this correspondence is between the Political Agency in Kuwait and the Ruler of Kuwait, Shaikh Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah and is in Arabic (with English translations).

The file also contains a letter from Major Maurice Patrick O'Connor Tandy, the Political Agent in Kuwait to Lieutenant-Colonel William Rupert Hay, the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, concerning the possibility of appointing a British financial adviser in Kuwait, which was partly intended to block Shaikh Fahad from obtaining control of the country's finances department.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [front] (1/50)

File No. 4/29
1944.

Collection No. I

R/15/5/217

Political Agency,
Kuwait

Confidential

Pros. Nos. Kuwait State
Serial

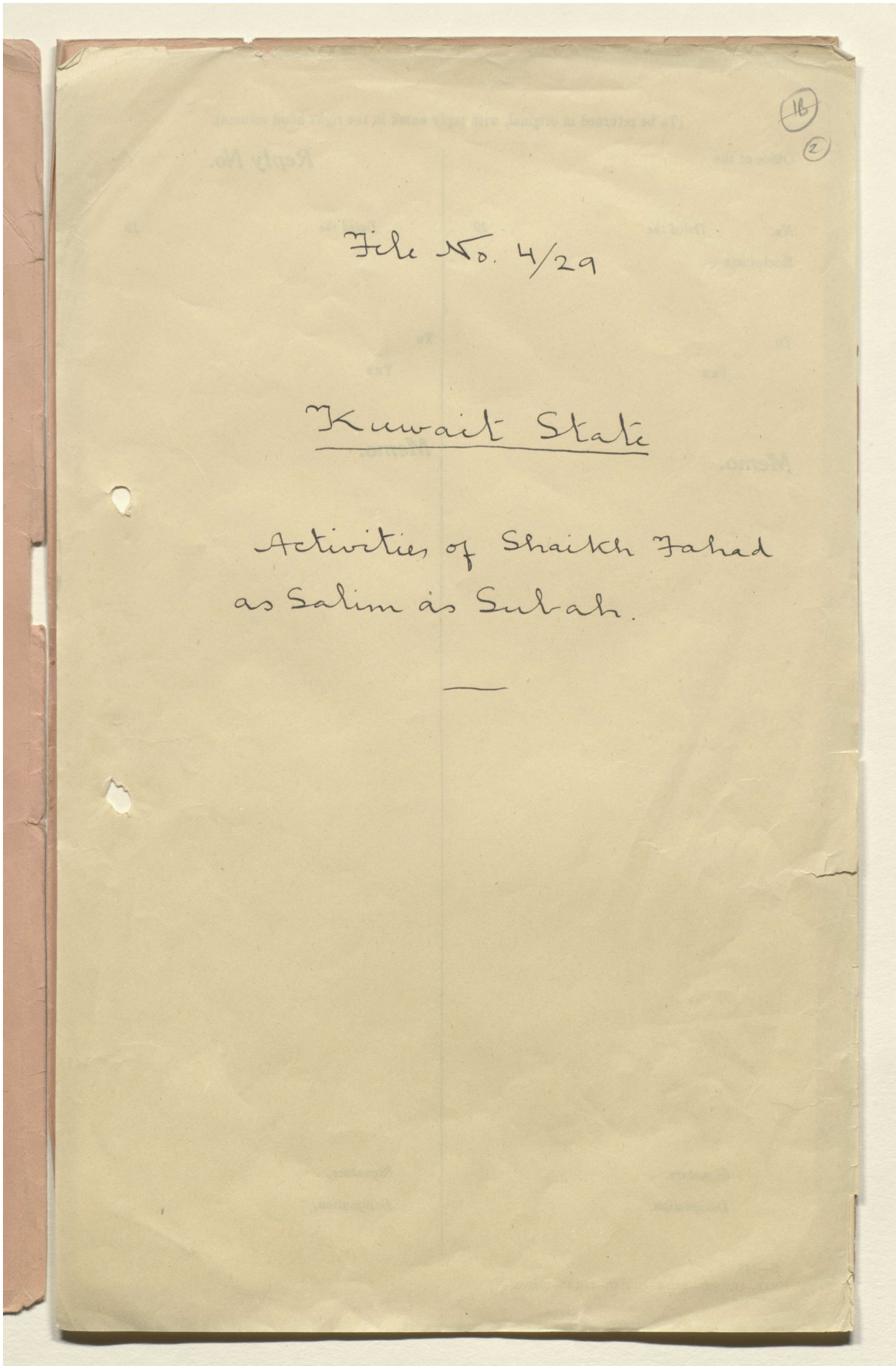
Subject.

Activities of Shaikh Fahad
as Salim as Subah.

Previous References.	Later References.

S. 97. (Salmon).
MFP-865 S&P-(M.1634)-16-12-33-15,000.



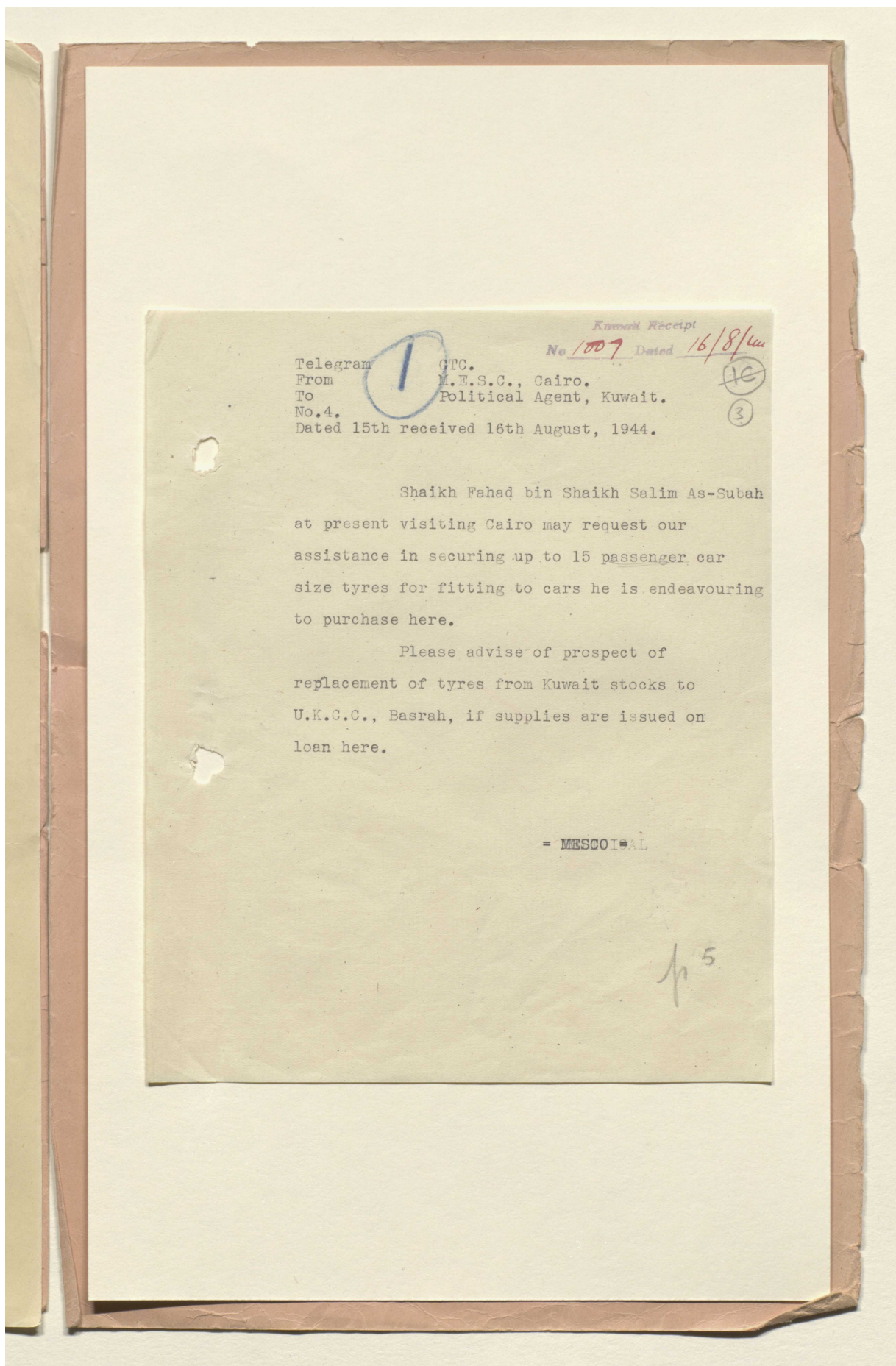


(To be returned in original, with reply noted in the right hand column).

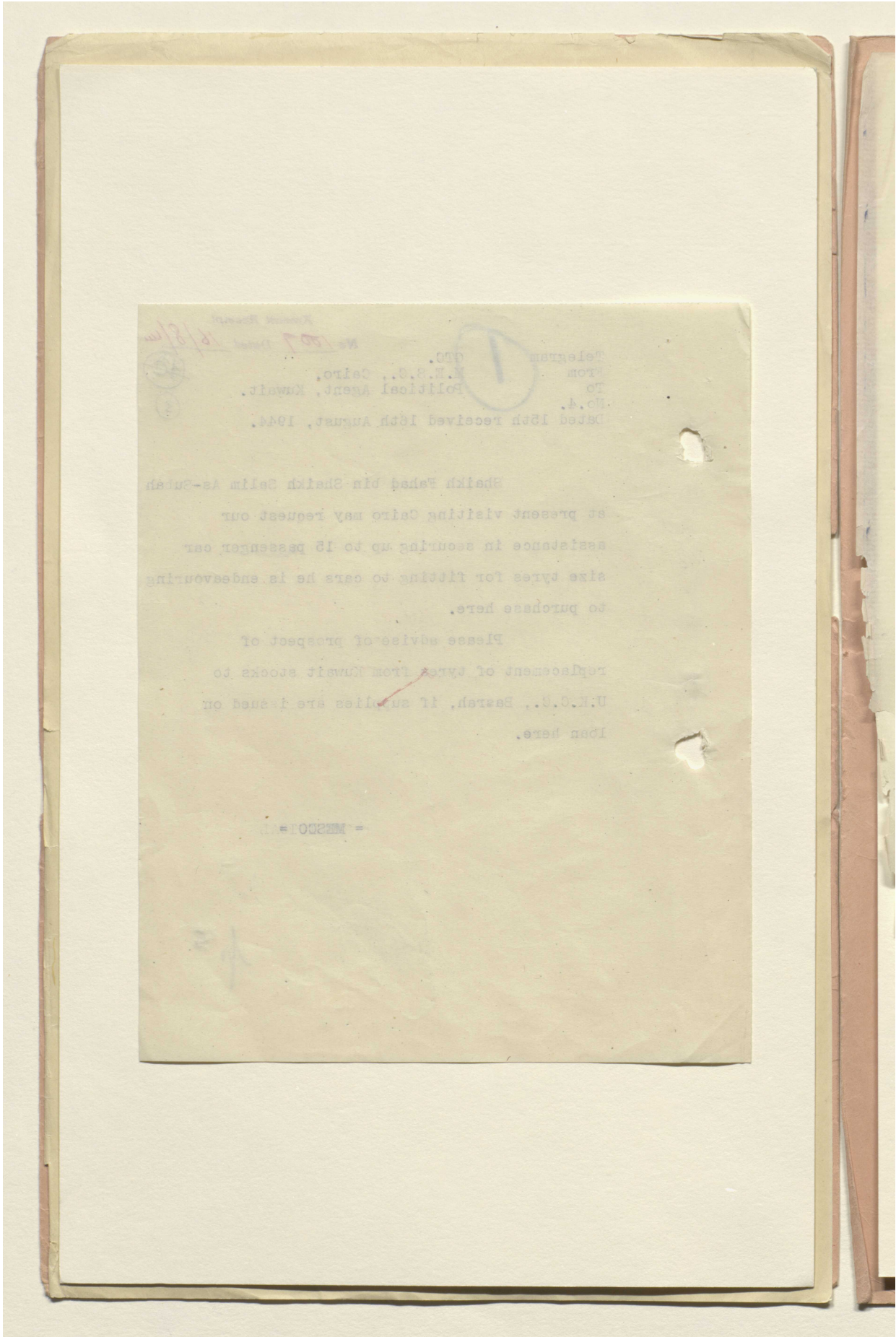
Office of the	<i>Reply No.</i>			
No.	Dated the	19	Dated the	19
Enclosures—				
To	THE		To	THE
<i>Memo.</i>			<i>Memo.</i>	
<i>Signature.</i>			<i>Signature.</i>	
<i>Designation.</i>			<i>Designation.</i>	

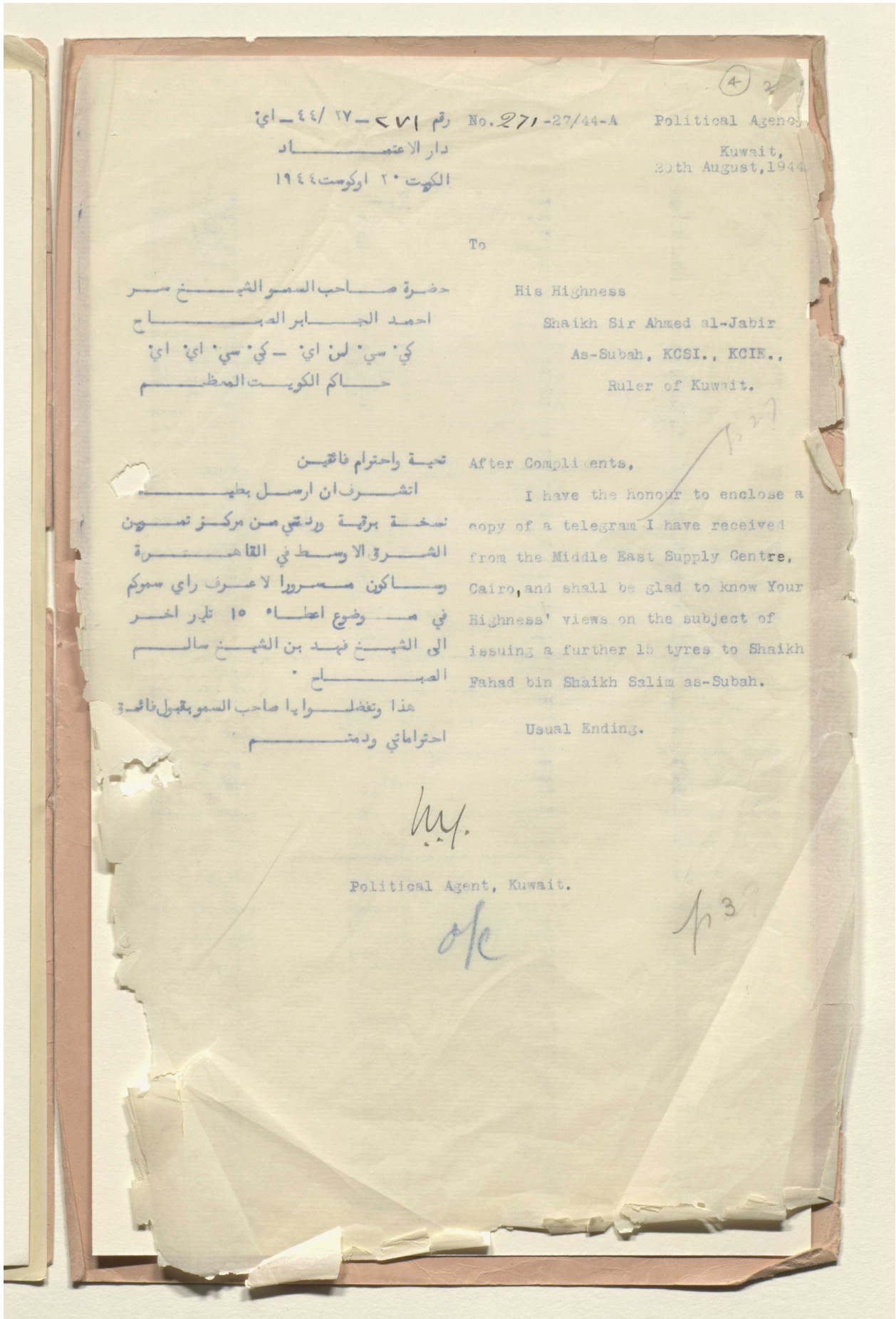
S-148.
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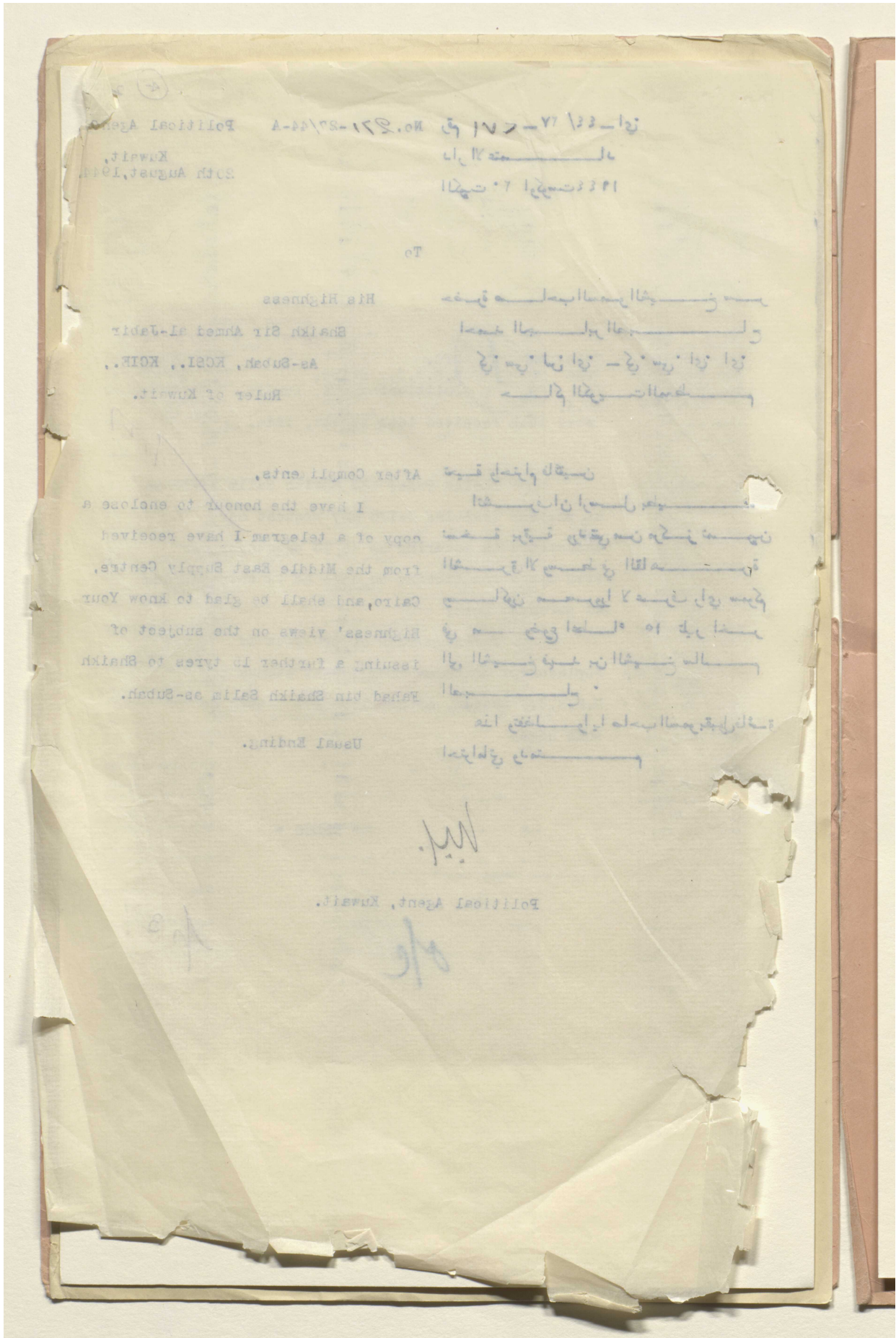
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [3r] (5/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [3v] (6/50)







'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [5r] (9/50)

Translation of letter No.R/6/2455 dated ^(S) the 21st August, 1944, from His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

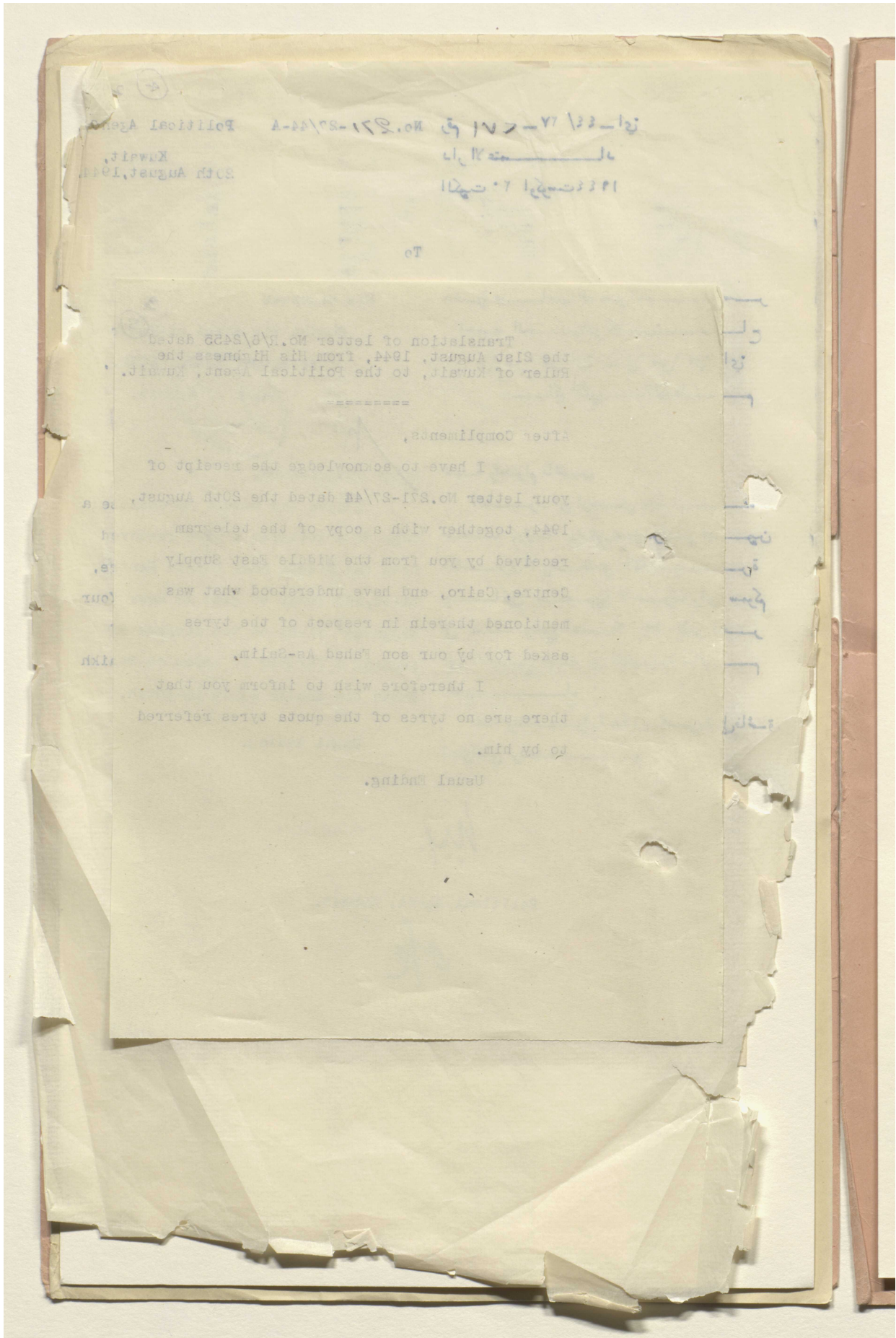
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After Compliments,

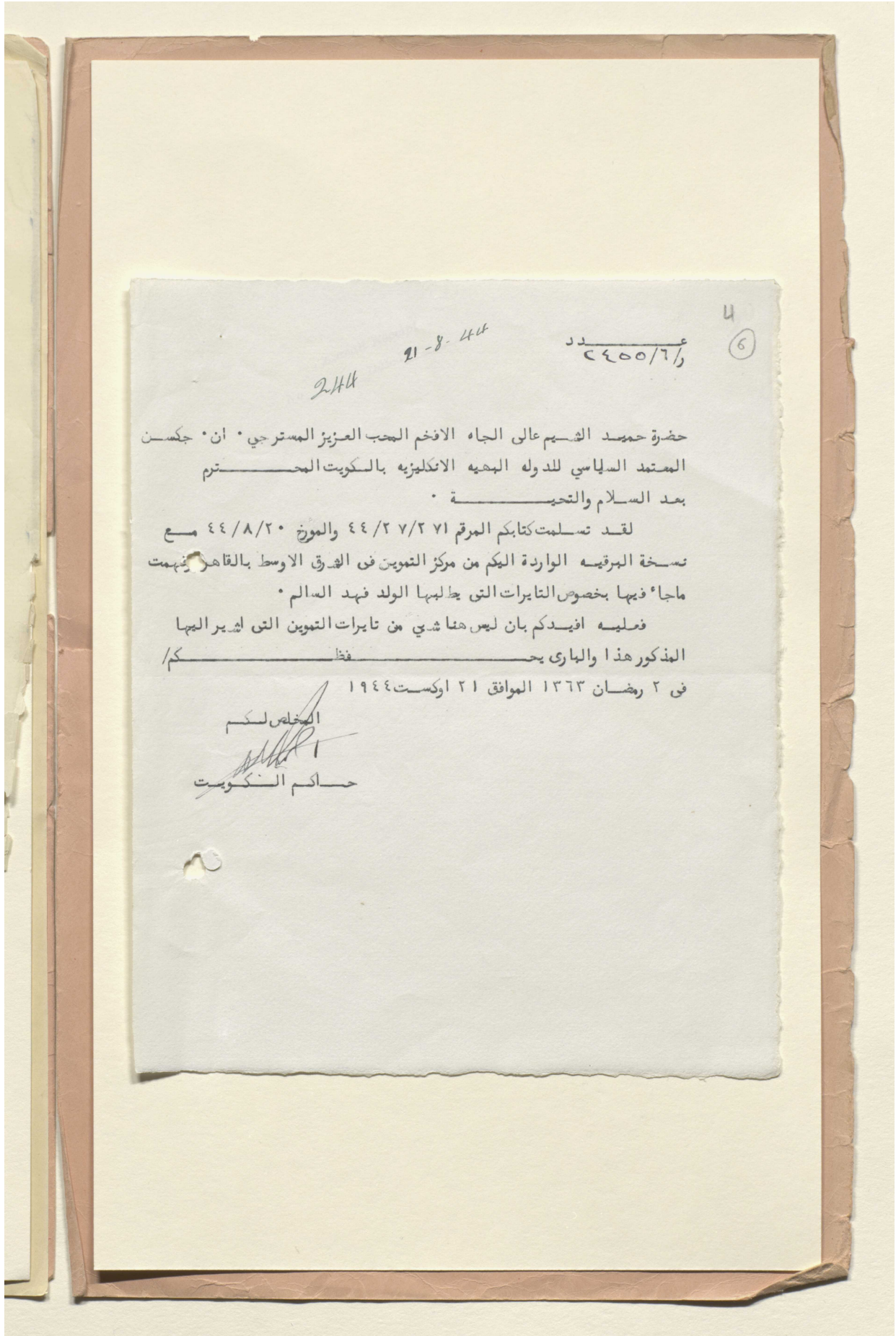
I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.271-27/44 dated the 20th August, 1944, together with a copy of the telegram received by you from the Middle East Supply Centre, Cairo, and have understood what was mentioned therein in respect of the tyres asked for by our son Fahad As-Salim,

I therefore wish to inform you that there are no tyres of the quota tyres referred to by him.

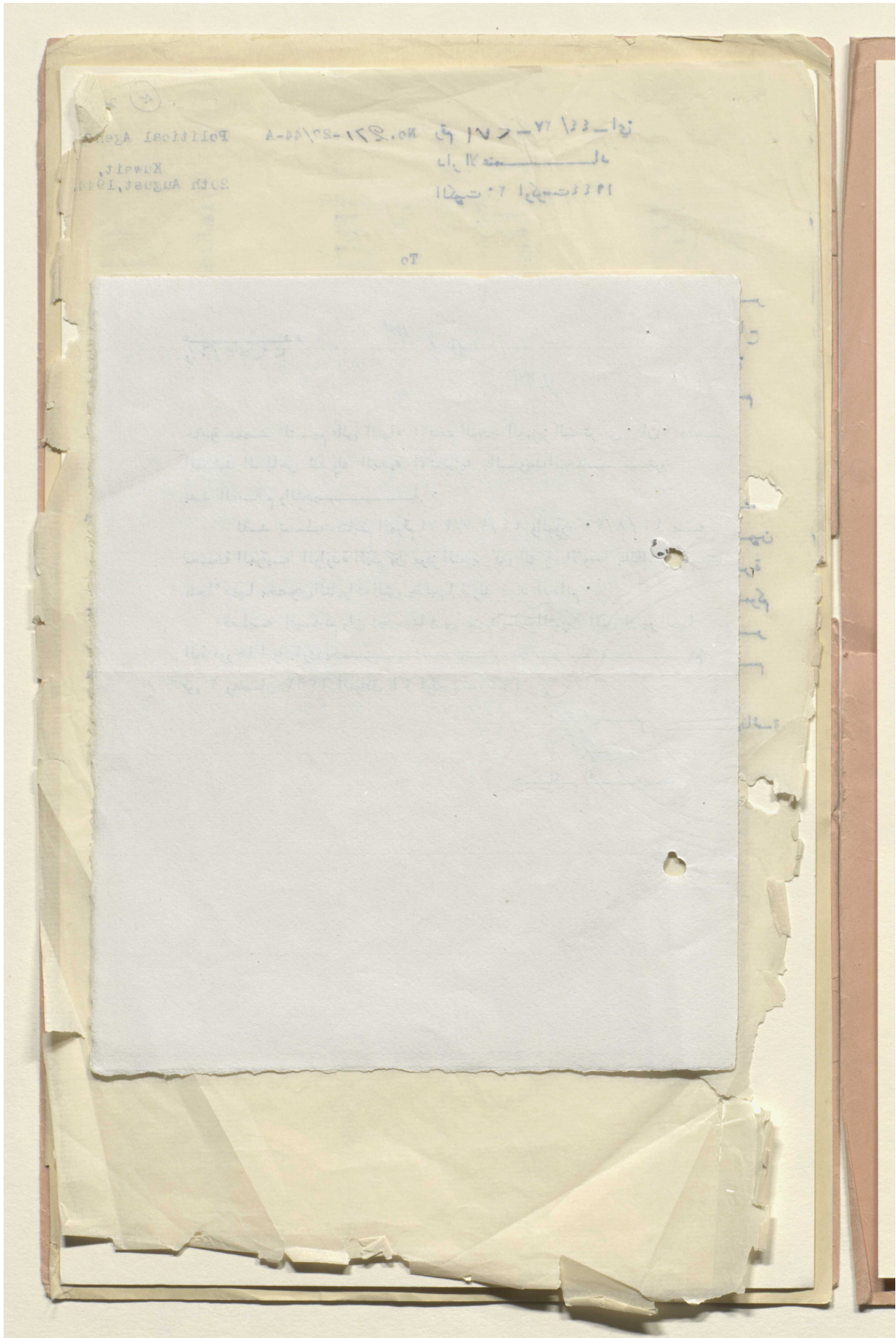
Usual Ending.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [5v] (10/50)

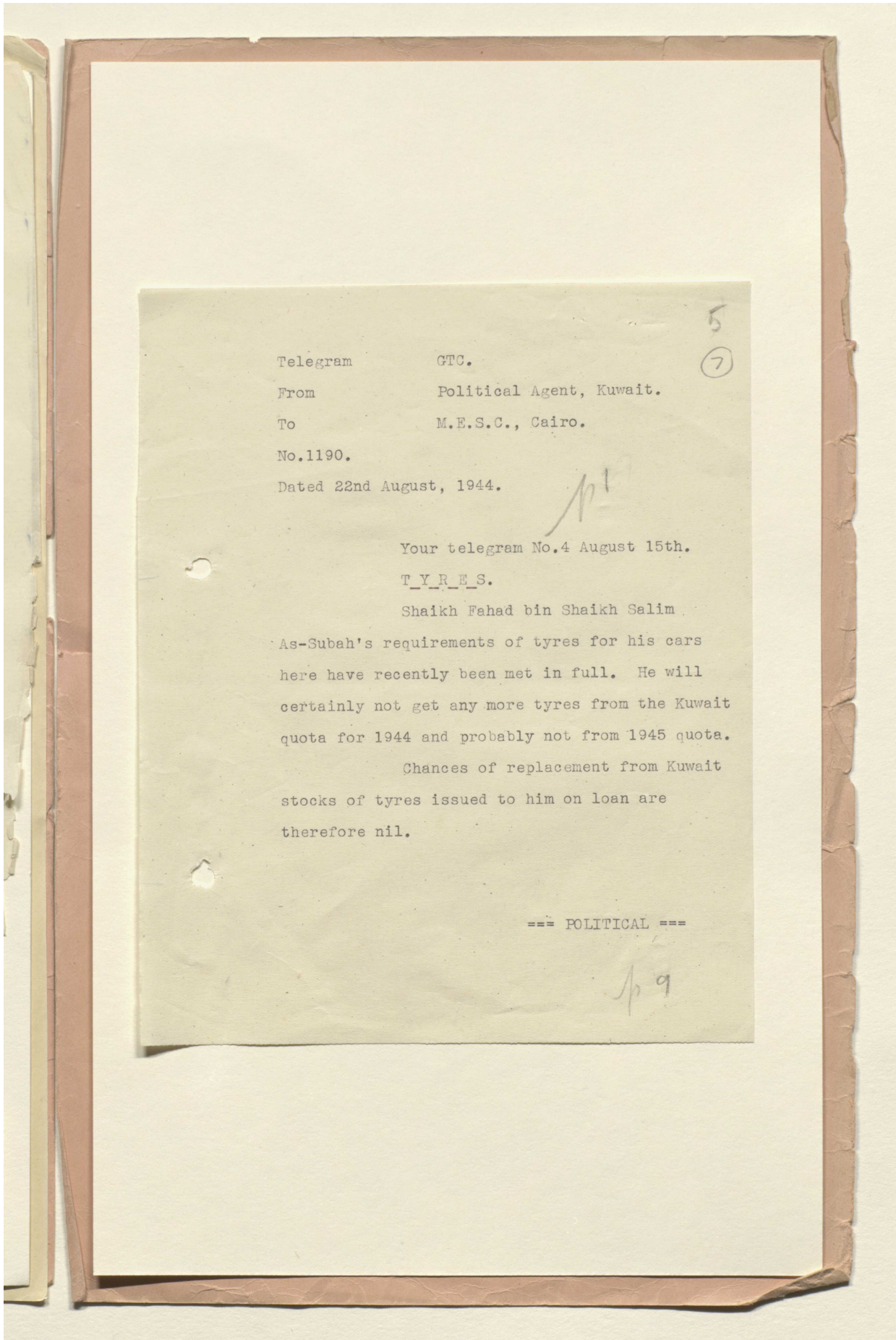




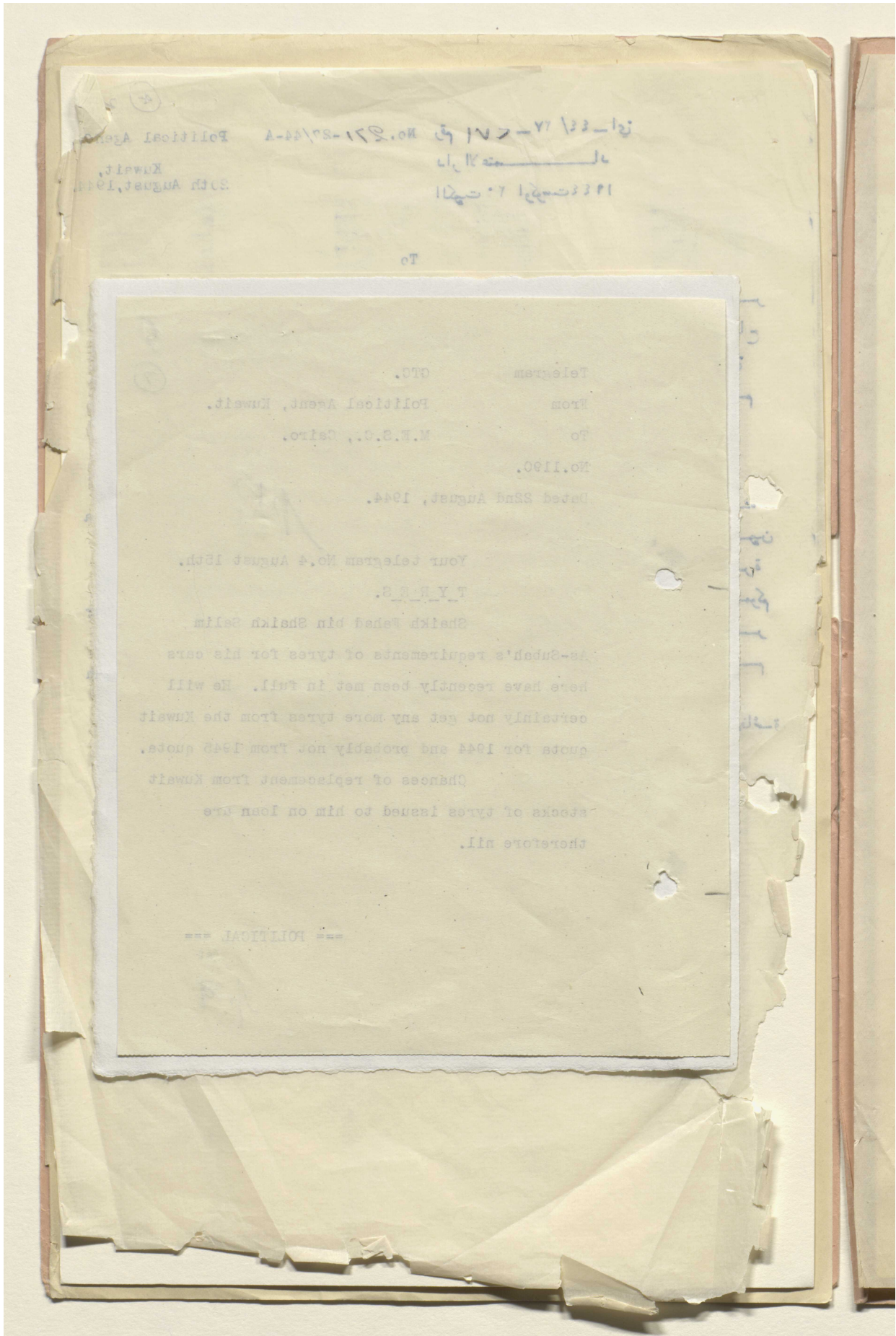
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [6v] (12/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [7r] (13/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [7v] (14/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [8r] (15/50)

Telegram Q
From Political Agent, Kuwait
To Prior, Shiraz
No 642
Dated 23rd August, 1944.

IMMEDIATE

B.B.C. announced in Arabic transmission at 1800 hours G.M.T. on 22nd August that Sheikh Fahad As Salim As Subah cousin of H.H. the Ruler of Kuwait had been received in Alexandria by Mustaffa Nahas Pasha the Egyptain Premier^{er} and 'inter alia' had discussed "Arab Unity".

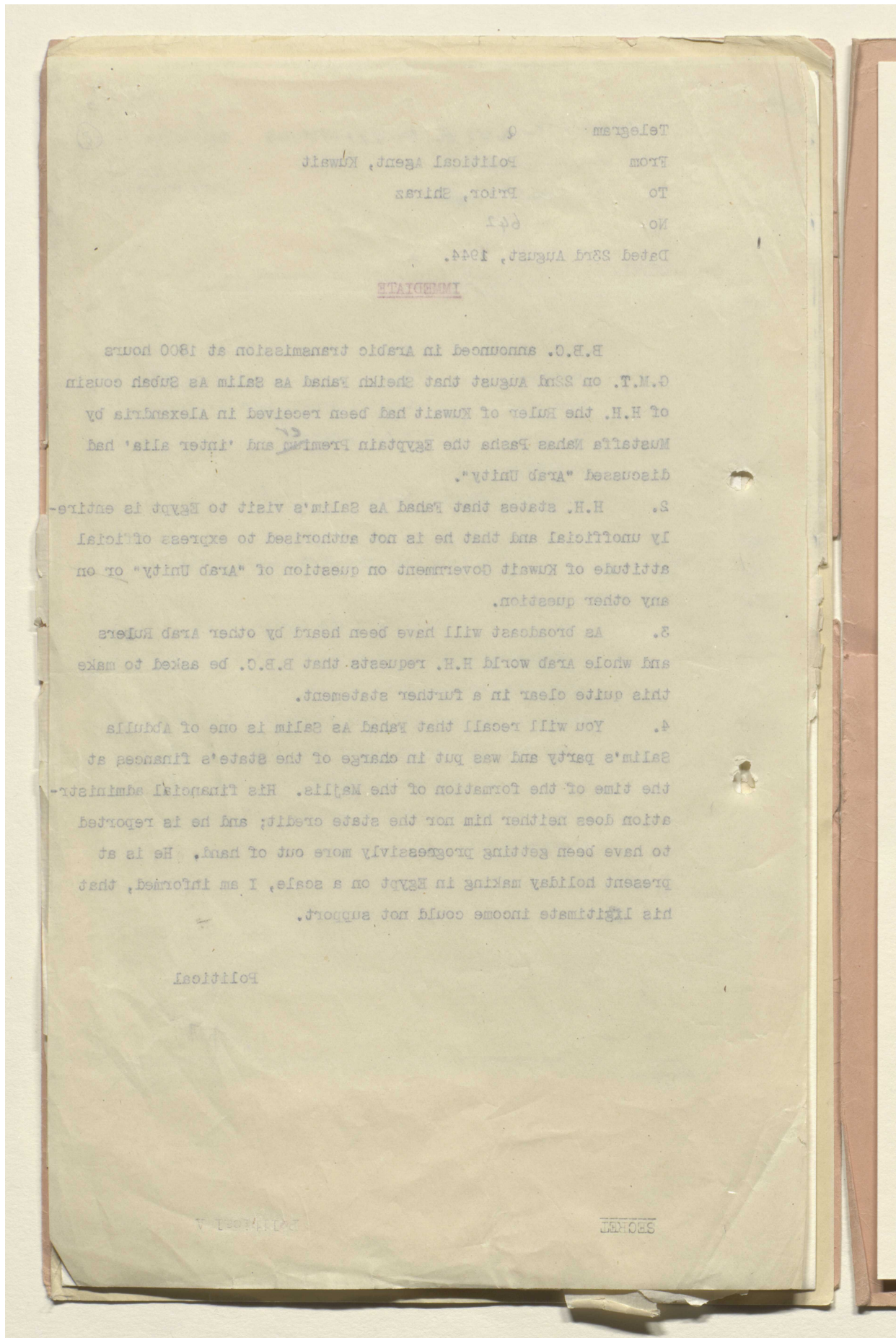
2. H.H. states that Fahad As Salim's visit to Egypt is entirely unofficial and that he is not authorised to express official attitude of Kuwait Government on question of "Arab Unity" or on any other question.

3. As broadcast will have been heard by other Arab Rulers and whole Arab world H.H. requests that B.B.C. be asked to make this quite clear in a further statement.

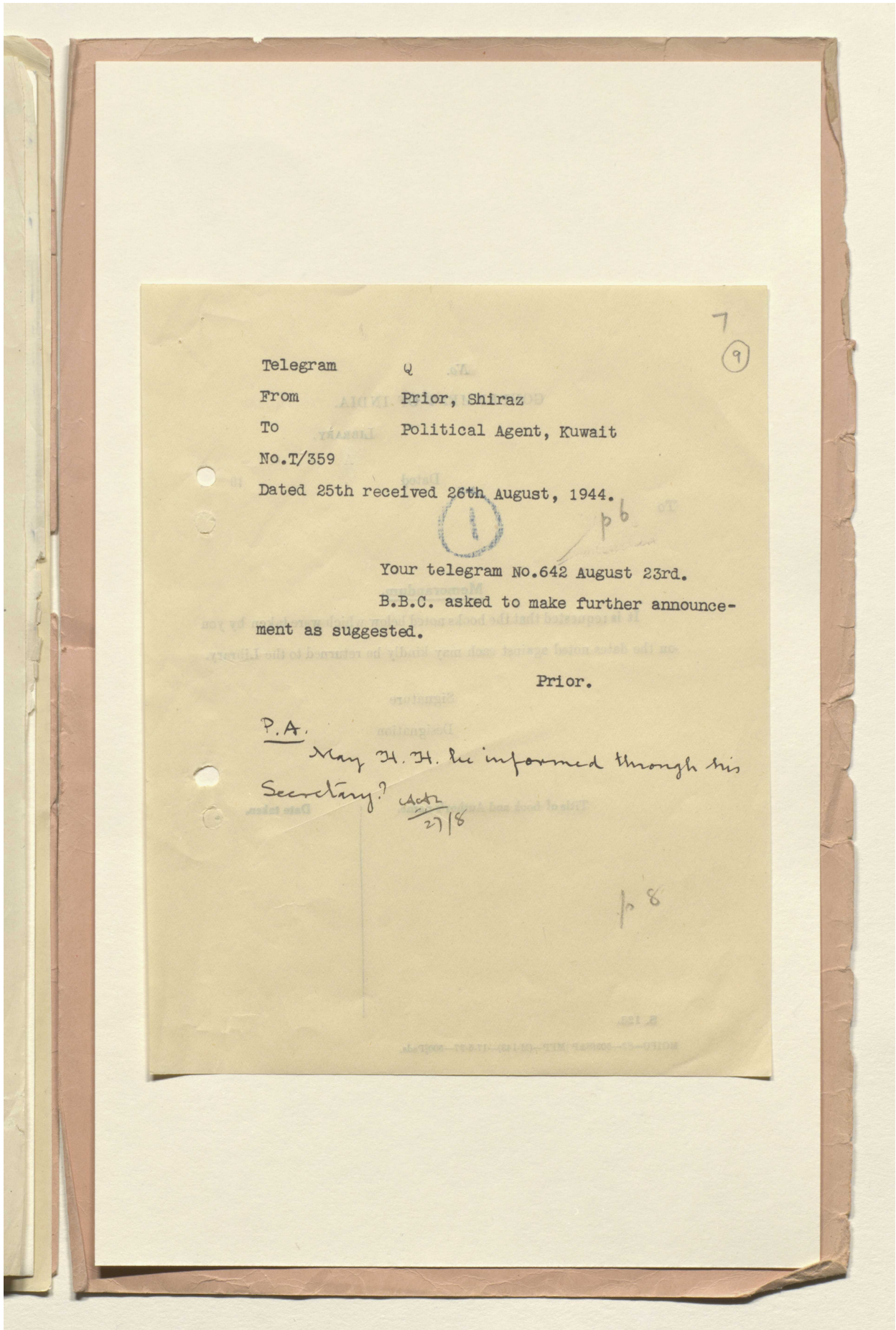
4. You will recall that Fahad As Salim is one of Abdulla Salim's party and was put in charge of the State's finances at the time of the formation of the Majlis. His financial administration does neither him nor the state credit; and he is reported to have been getting progressively more out of hand. He is at present holiday making in Egypt on a scale, I am informed, that his legitimate income could not support.

Political

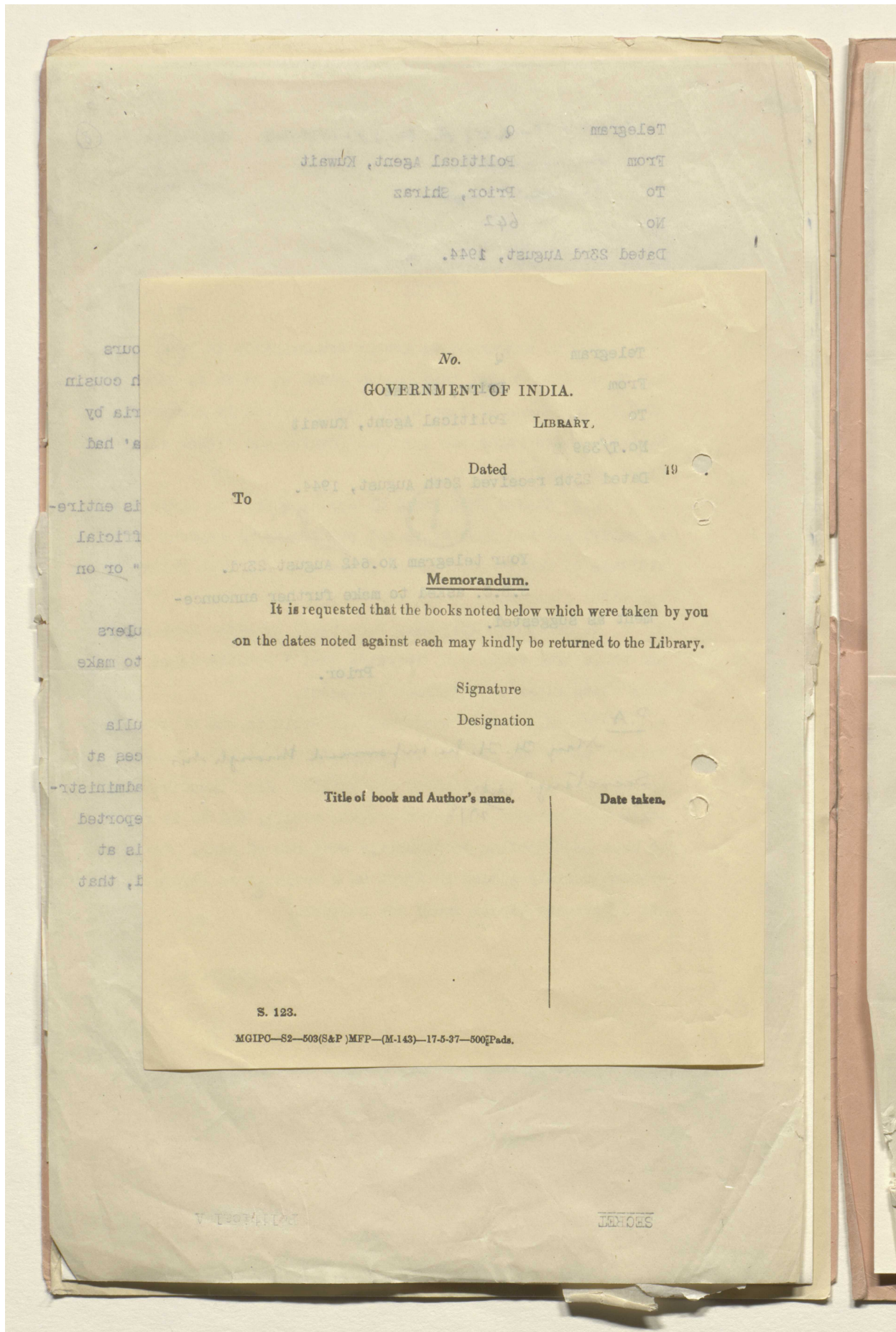
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [8v] (16/50)



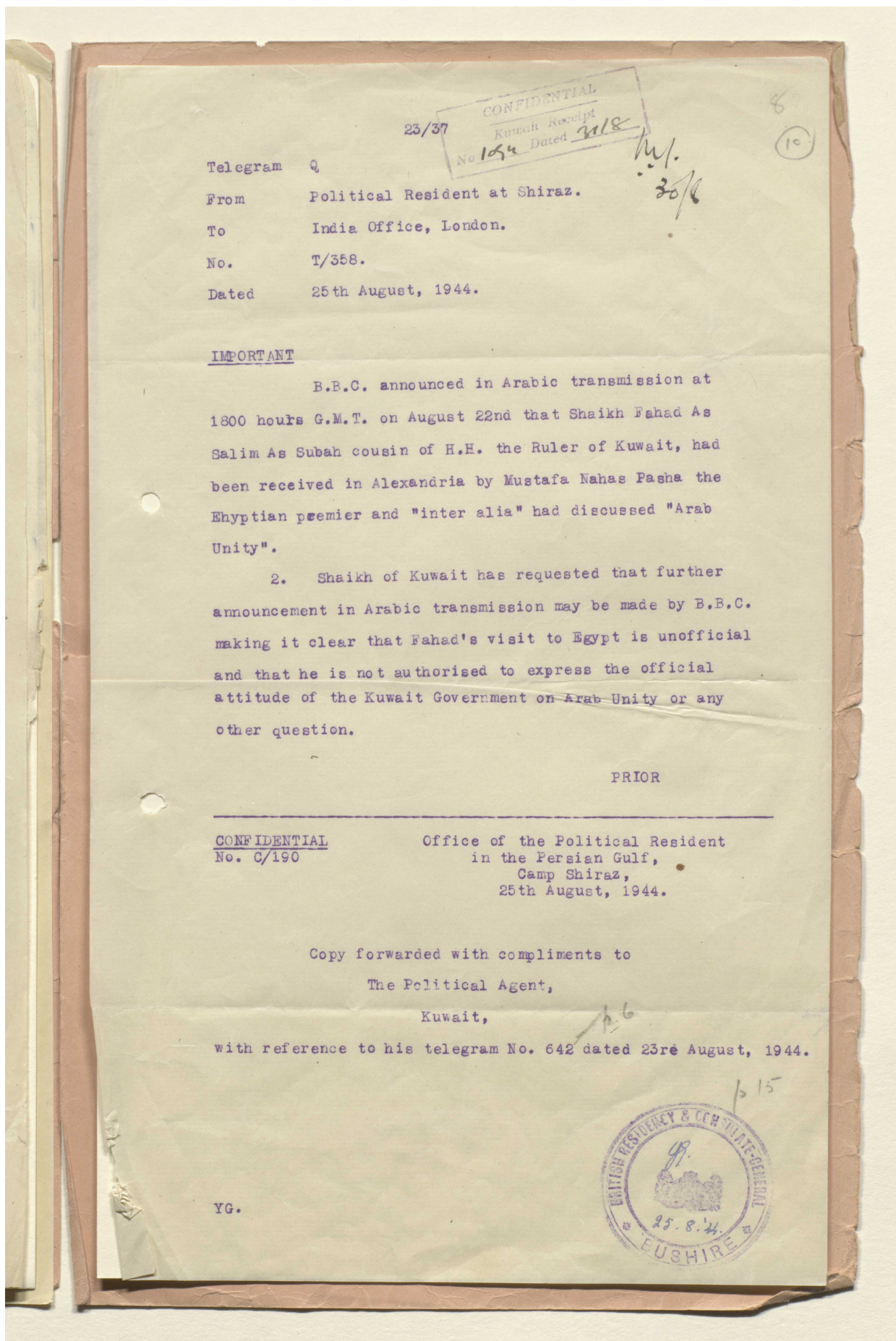
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [9r] (17/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [9v] (18/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [10r] (19/50)



23/37
CONFIDENTIAL
Kuwait Receipt
No 1044 Dated 21/8

6
10

Telegram Q
From Political Resident at Shiraz.
To India Office, London.
No. T/358.
Dated 25th August, 1944.

IMPORTANT

B.B.C. announced in Arabic transmission at 1800 hours G.M.T. on August 22nd that Shaikh Fahad As Salim As Subah cousin of H.H. the Ruler of Kuwait, had been received in Alexandria by Mustafa Nahas Pasha the Ehyptian pæmier and "inter alia" had discussed "Arab Unity".

2. Shaikh of Kuwait has requested that further announcement in Arabic transmission may be made by B.B.C. making it clear that Fahad's visit to Egypt is unofficial and that he is not authorised to express the official attitude of the Kuwait Government on Arab Unity or any other question.

PRIOR

CONFIDENTIAL
No. C/190

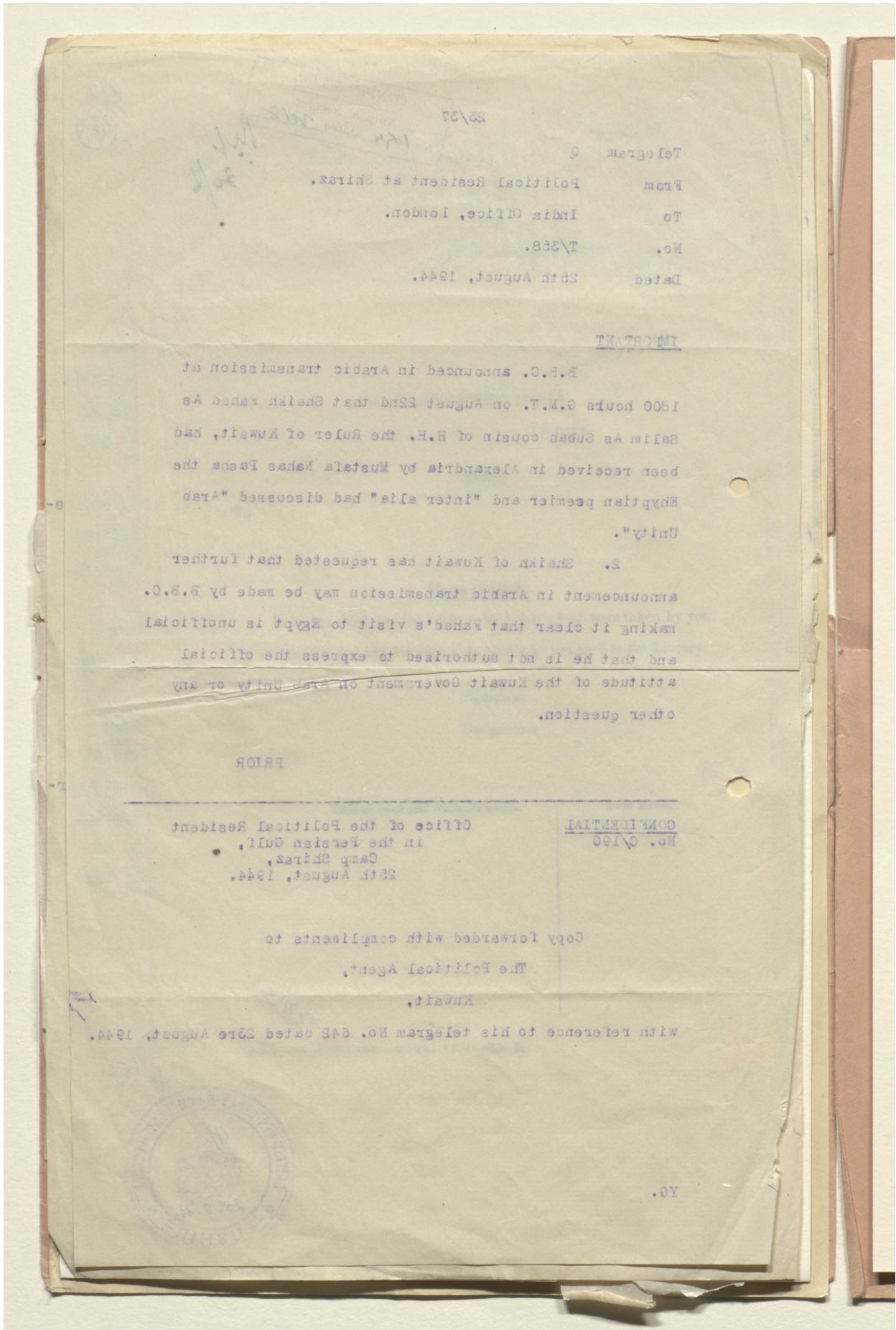
Office of the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
Camp Shiraz,
25th August, 1944.

Copy forwarded with compliments to
The Political Agent,
Kuwait,
with reference to his telegram No. 642 dated 23rd August, 1944.

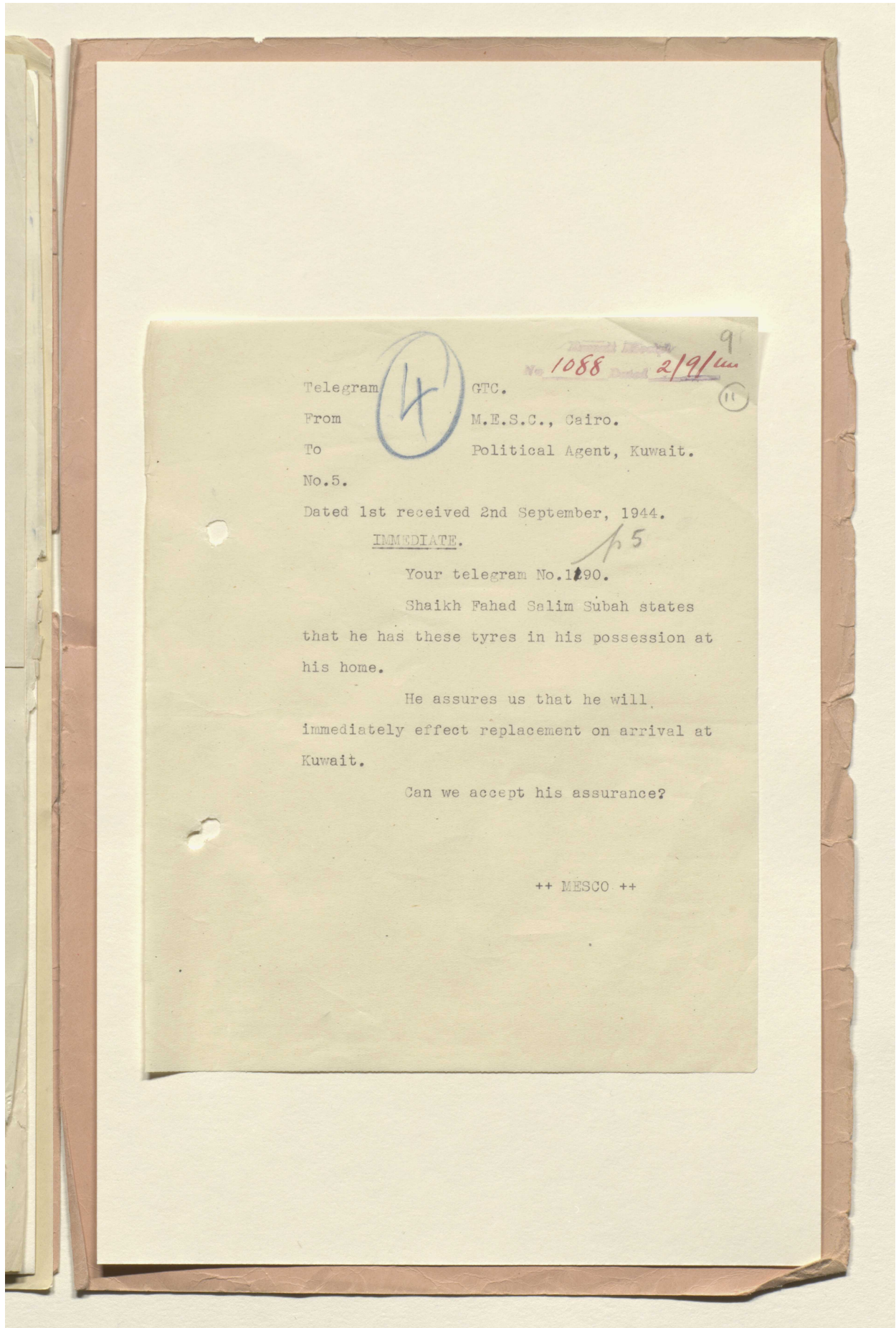
YG.

15
BRITISH RESIDENCY & CONSUL GENERAL
BUSHIRE
25.8.44

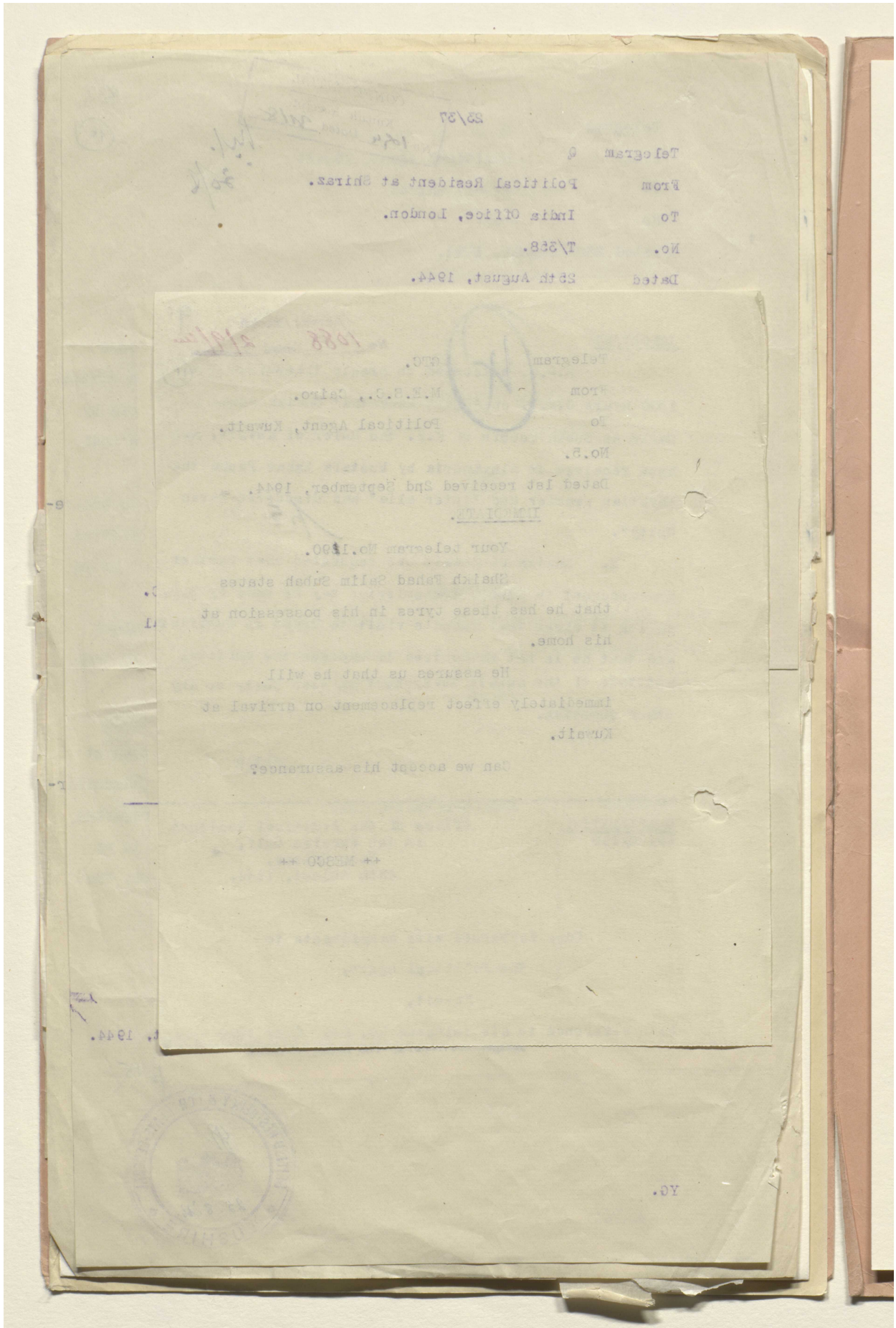
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [10v] (20/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [11r] (21/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [11v] (22/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [12r] (23/50)

Telegram GTC. (10)
From Political Agent, Kuwait. (12)
To Prior, Shiraz.
No.1277.
Dated 3rd September, 1944.

For JACKSON. p9

Following is repetition of an immediate telegram No.5 September 1st from MESCO Cairo begins:-

" Your telegram No.1190. p5
Shaikh Fahad Salim Subah states that he has these tyres in his possession at his home.

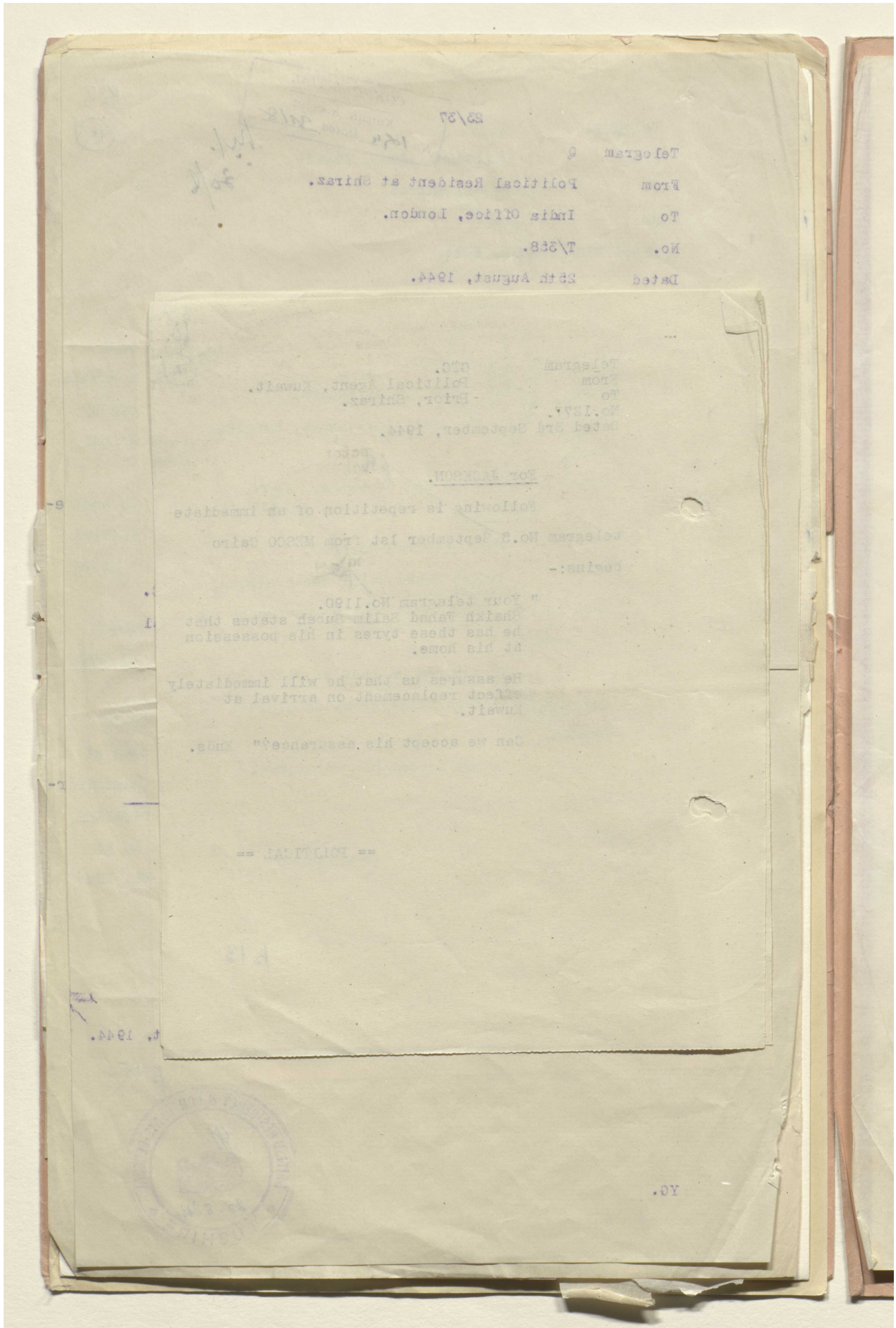
He assures us that he will immediately effect replacement on arrival at Kuwait.

Can we accept his assurance?" Ends.

== POLITICAL ==

p13

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [12v] (24/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [13r] (25/50)

53/32

13

Telegram S(A)
From H.M.Ambassador, Cairo.
To Political Resident, at Shiraz.
No. 3
Dated 1st received 3rd September, 1944.

Kuwait telegram No. 1190 to M.E.S.C.

Shaikh Fahad Asalim al Subah of Kuwait recently pressed the Embassy for assistance in obtaining permission to export from Egypt two additional motor cars purchased locally to take him and his family back to Kuwait and according to his statements to be used subsequently for local Government service.

2. Transport Director of Middle East Supply Centre had originally put him in touch with local distributors but urged him to make sure of position before buying as no export permit was likely to be granted. He ignored or misunderstood warning.

3. Under an Egyptian military proclamation the export ban on locally purchased cars is absolute. A semi-official application by this Embassy failed to secure exceptional treatment and I trust you will agree that official approach to Egyptian Government on a high level would not be justified. Fahad now talks of reselling the two additional cars and of leaving shortly for Kuwait with cars used on outward journey.

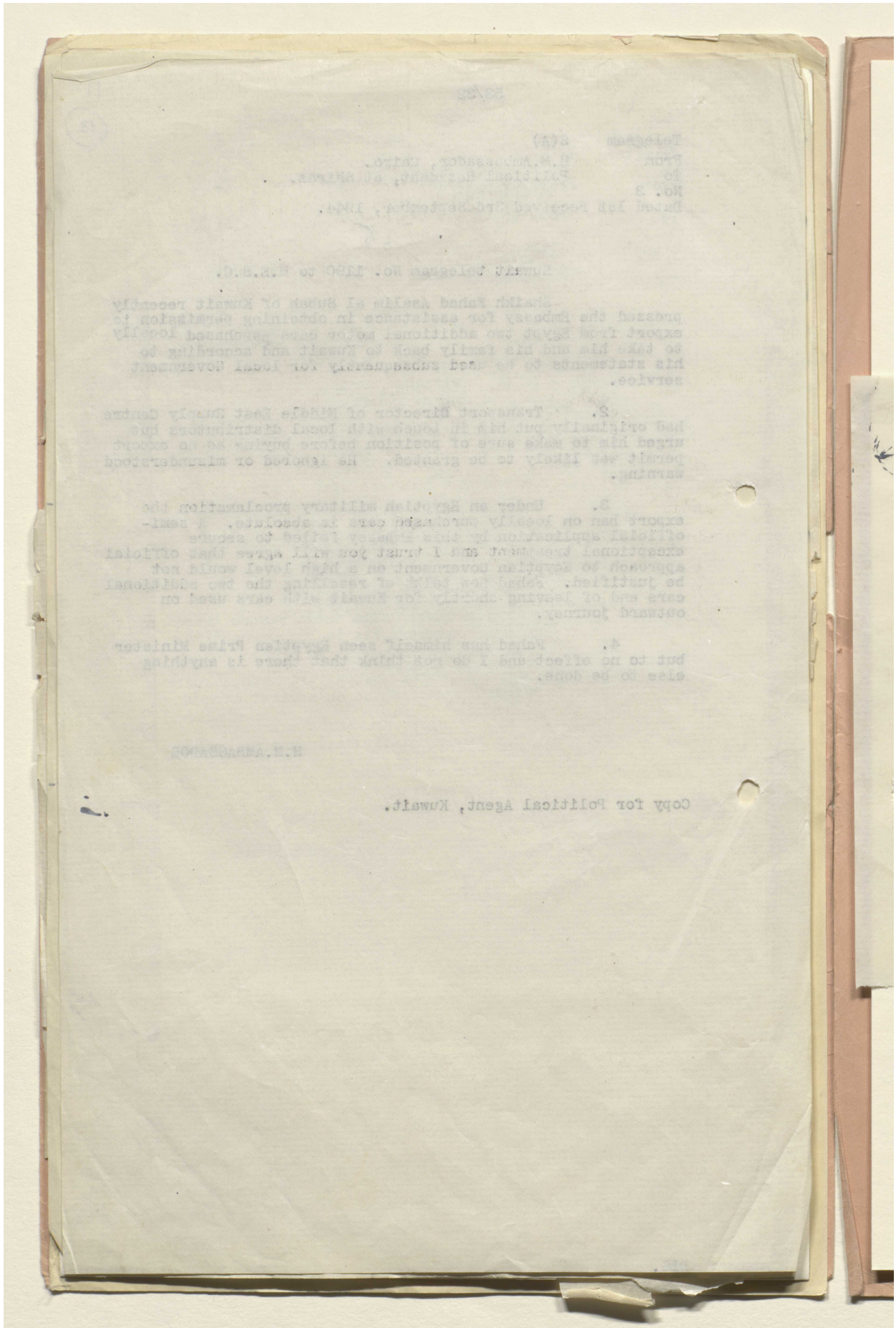
4. Fahad has himself seen Egyptian Prime Minister but to no effect and I do not think that there is anything else to be done.

H.M.AMBASSADOR

Copy for Political Agent, Kuwait.

DLG.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [13v] (26/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [14r] (27/50)

Telegram Q
From Middle East Supply Centre, Cairo.
To Political Agent, Kuwait.
No. 5
Dated 1st received 3rd September, 1944.

IMMEDIATE

(Received at Shiraz under Kuwait telegram No.1277 of 3rd September)

For Jackson.

Your 1290. Shaikh Fahad-as-Subah states that he has these tyres in his possession at his home. He assures us that he will immediately effect replacement on arrival at Kuwait. Can we accept his assurance.?

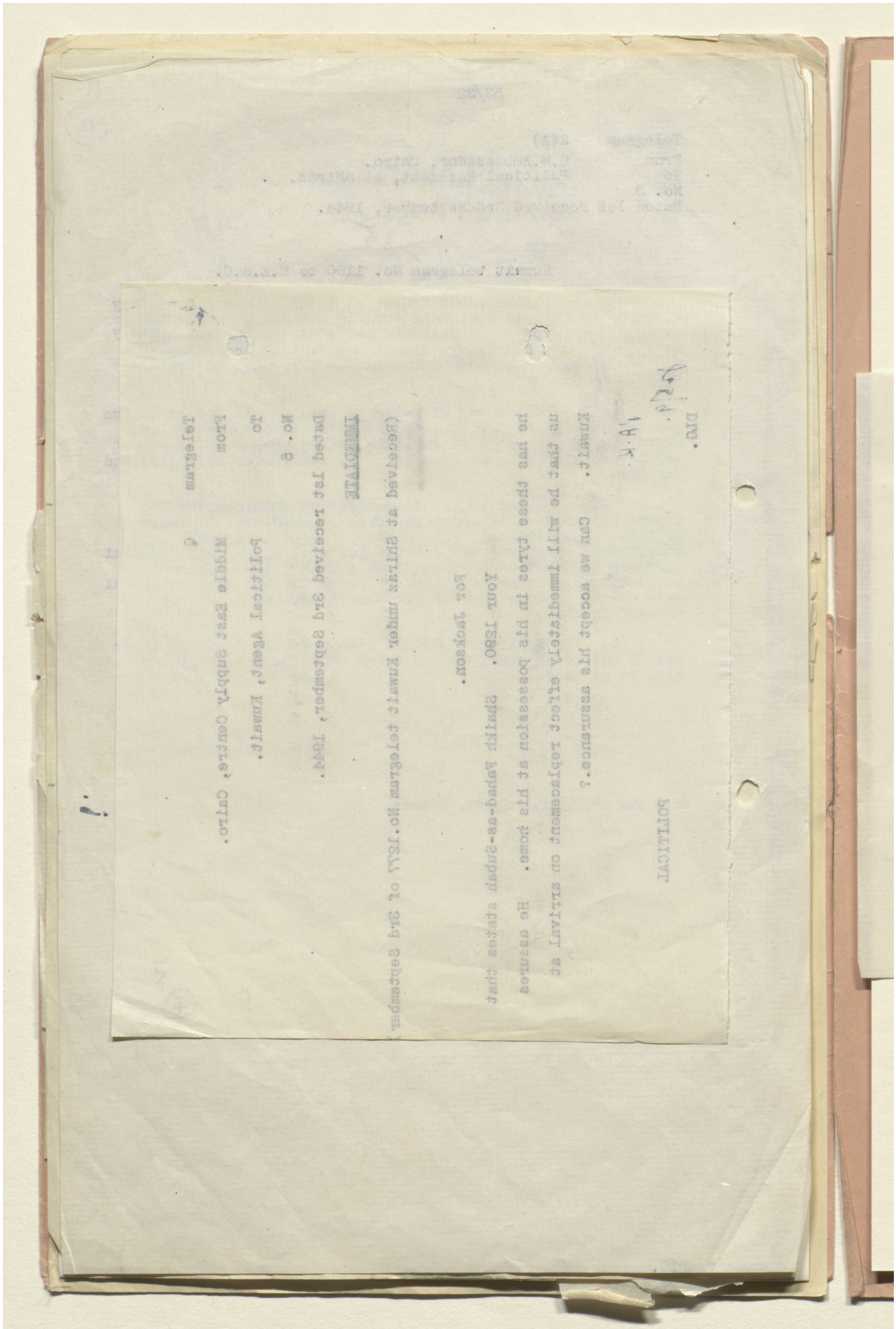
J.A.K.

22/9.

DLG.

POLITICAL

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [14v] (28/50)



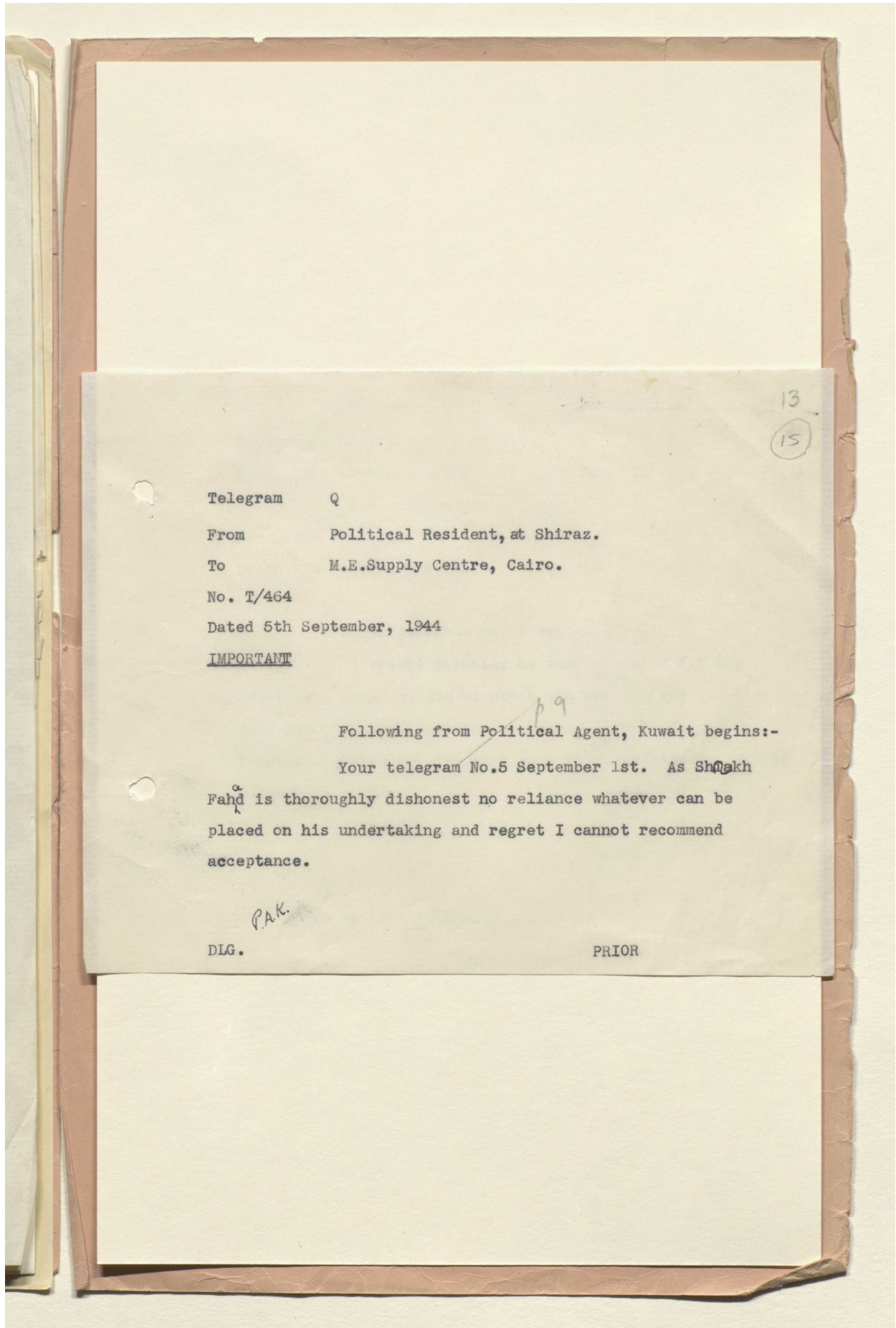
D.W.
A.K.

POLITICAL

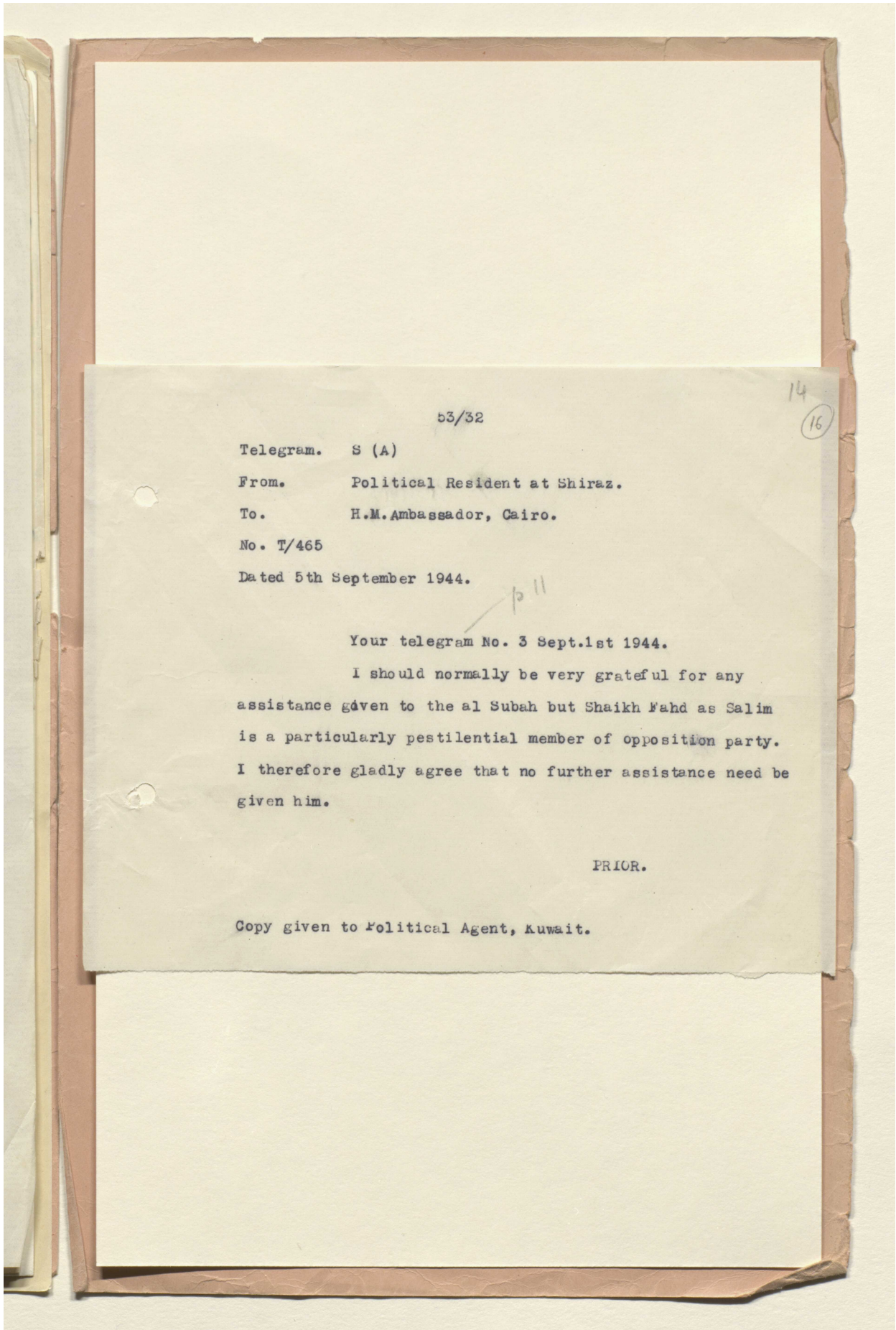
Can we accept his assurance?
us that he will immediately effect replacement on arrival at
he has these tyres in his possession at his home. He assures
Your 1280. Shaikh Fahad-as-Subah states that
For Jackson.

(Received at Shiraz under Kuwait telegram No. 1277 of 3rd September)
IMMEDIATE
Dated 1st received 3rd September, 1944.
No. 6
To Political Agent, Kuwait.
From Middle East Supply Centre, Cairo.
Telegram 6

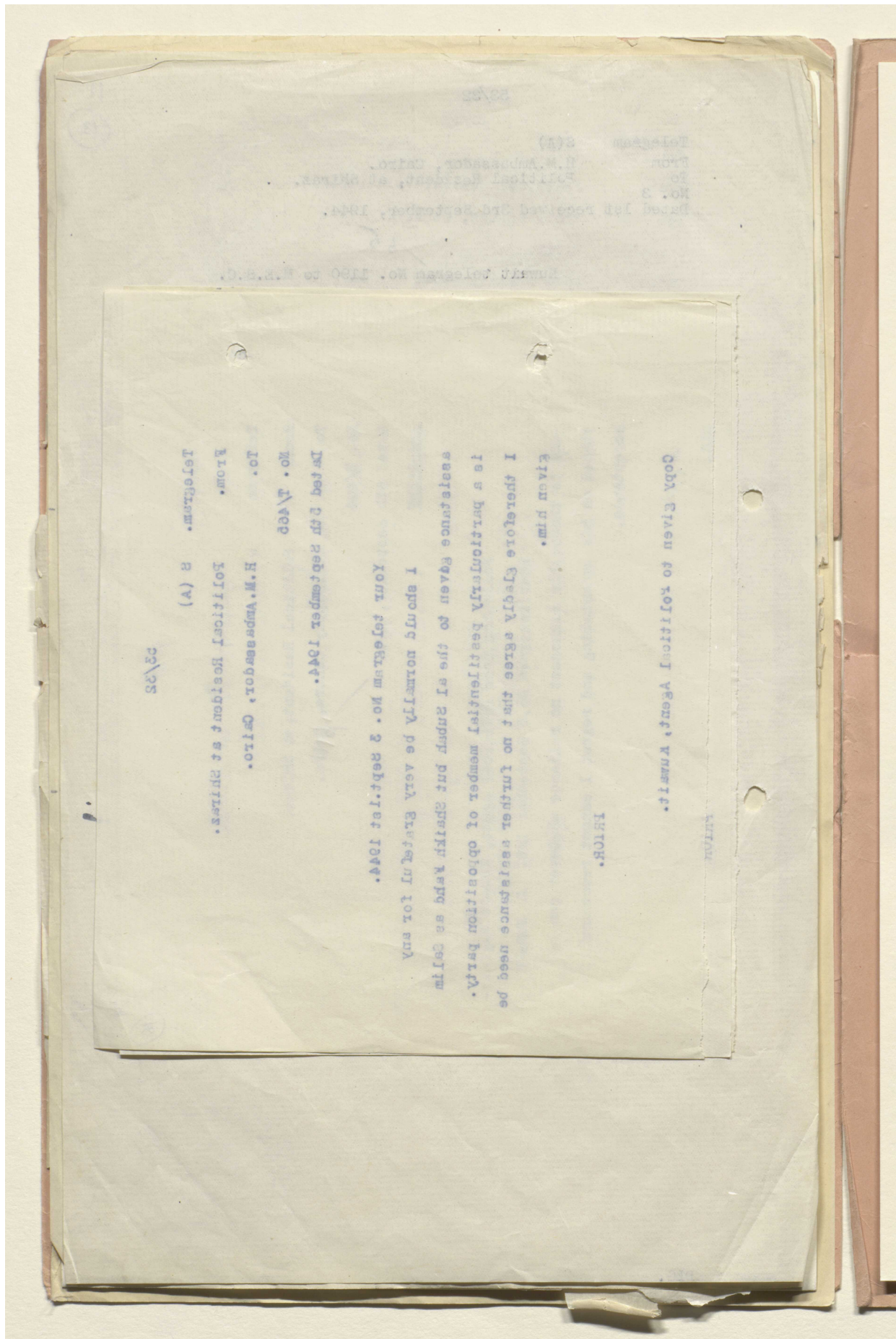
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [15r] (29/50)



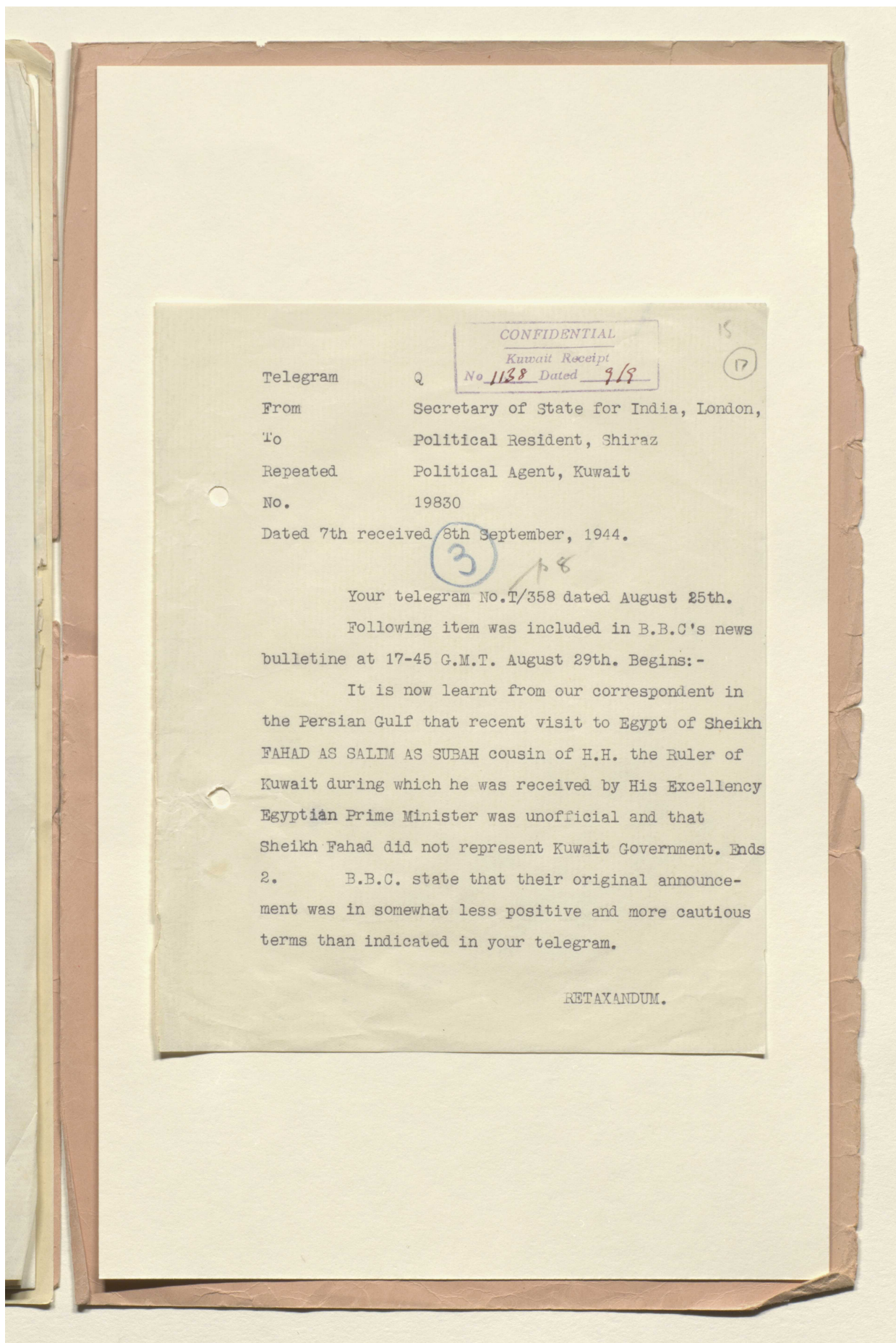
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [16r] (31/50)



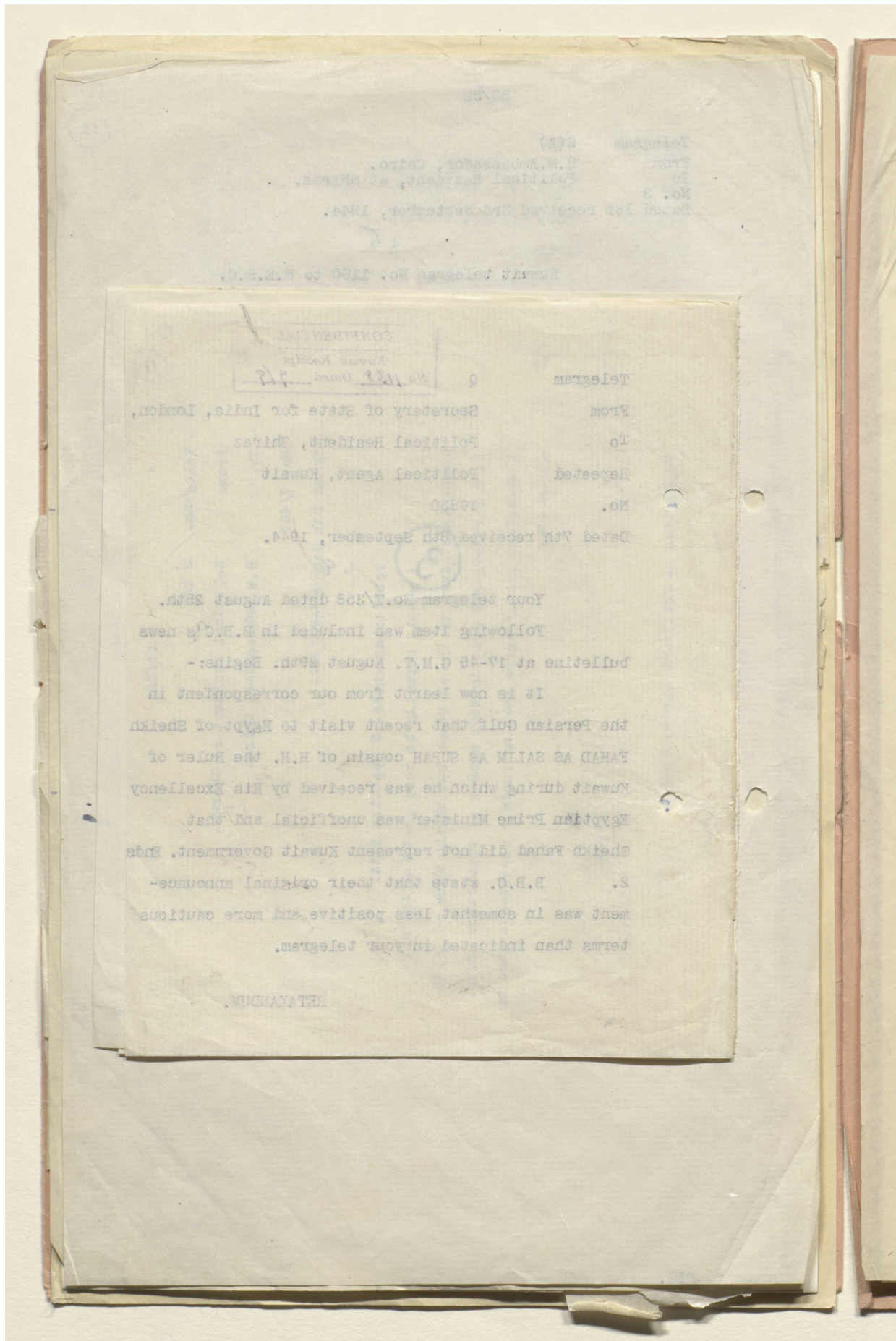
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [16v] (32/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [17r] (33/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [17v] (34/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [18r] (35/50)

Telegram S
From Political Agent, Kuwait
To Prior, Shiraz
No 683
Dated 16th September, 1944.

16.
18

(H)

Your personal letter No.C/243 September 7th

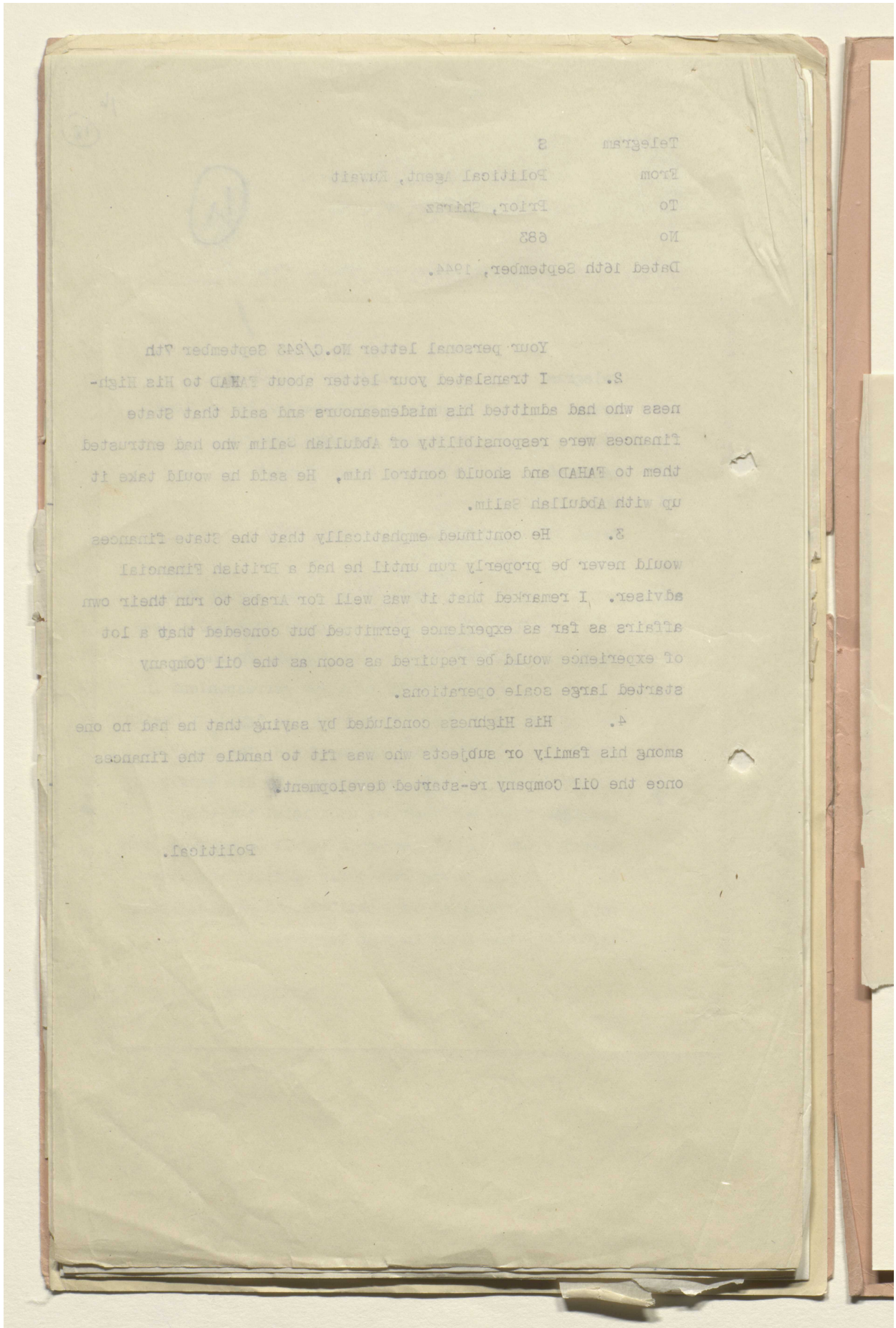
2. I translated your letter about FAHAD to His Highness who had admitted his misdemeanours and said that State finances were responsibility of Abdullah Salim who had entrusted them to FAHAD and should control him. He said he would take it up with Abdullah Salim.

3. He continued emphatically that the State finances would never be properly run until he had a British Financial adviser. I remarked that it was well for Arabs to run their own affairs as far as experience permitted but conceded that a lot of experience would be required as soon as the Oil Company started large scale operations.

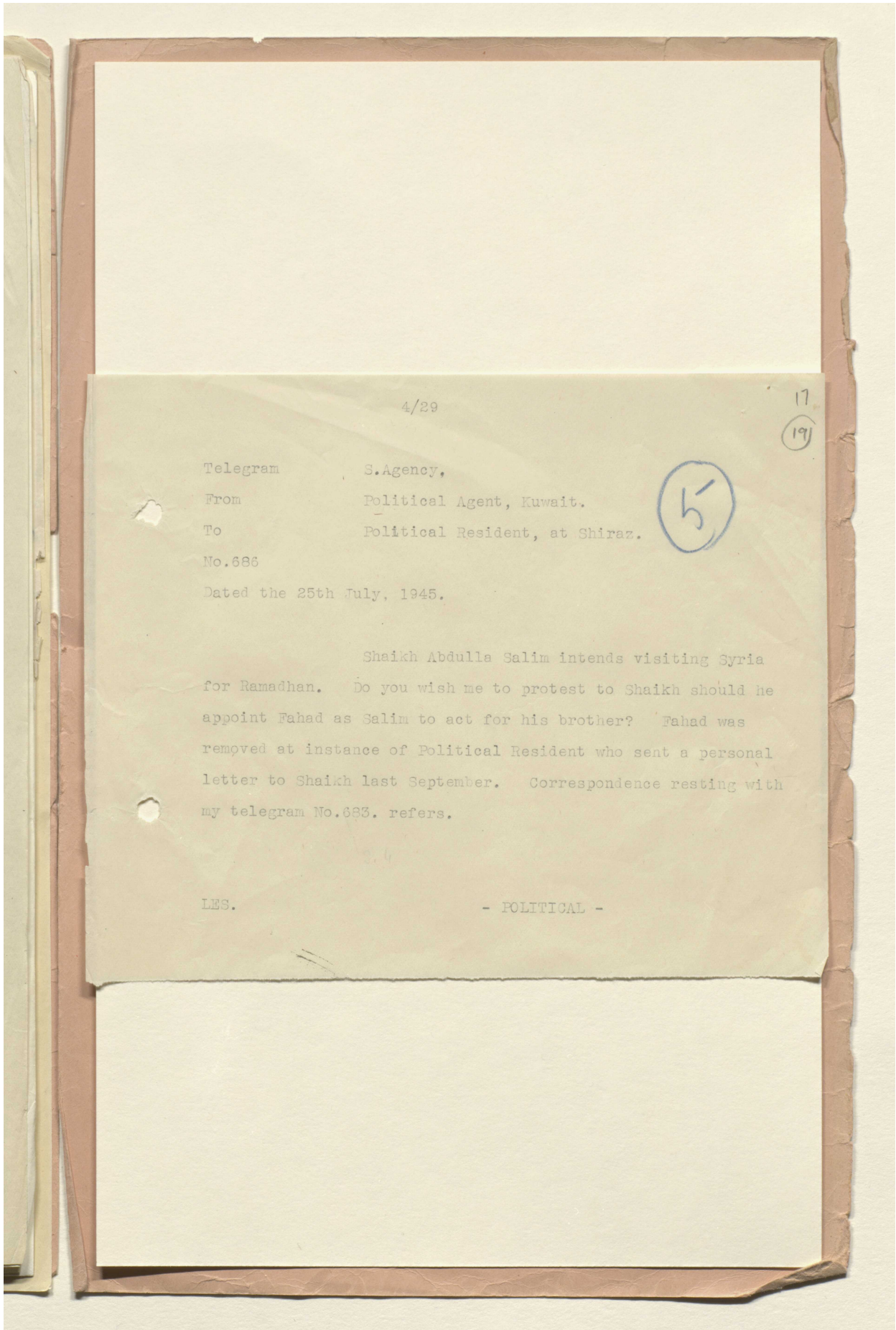
4. His Highness concluded by saying that he had no one among his family or subjects who was fit to handle the finances once the Oil Company re-started development.

Political.

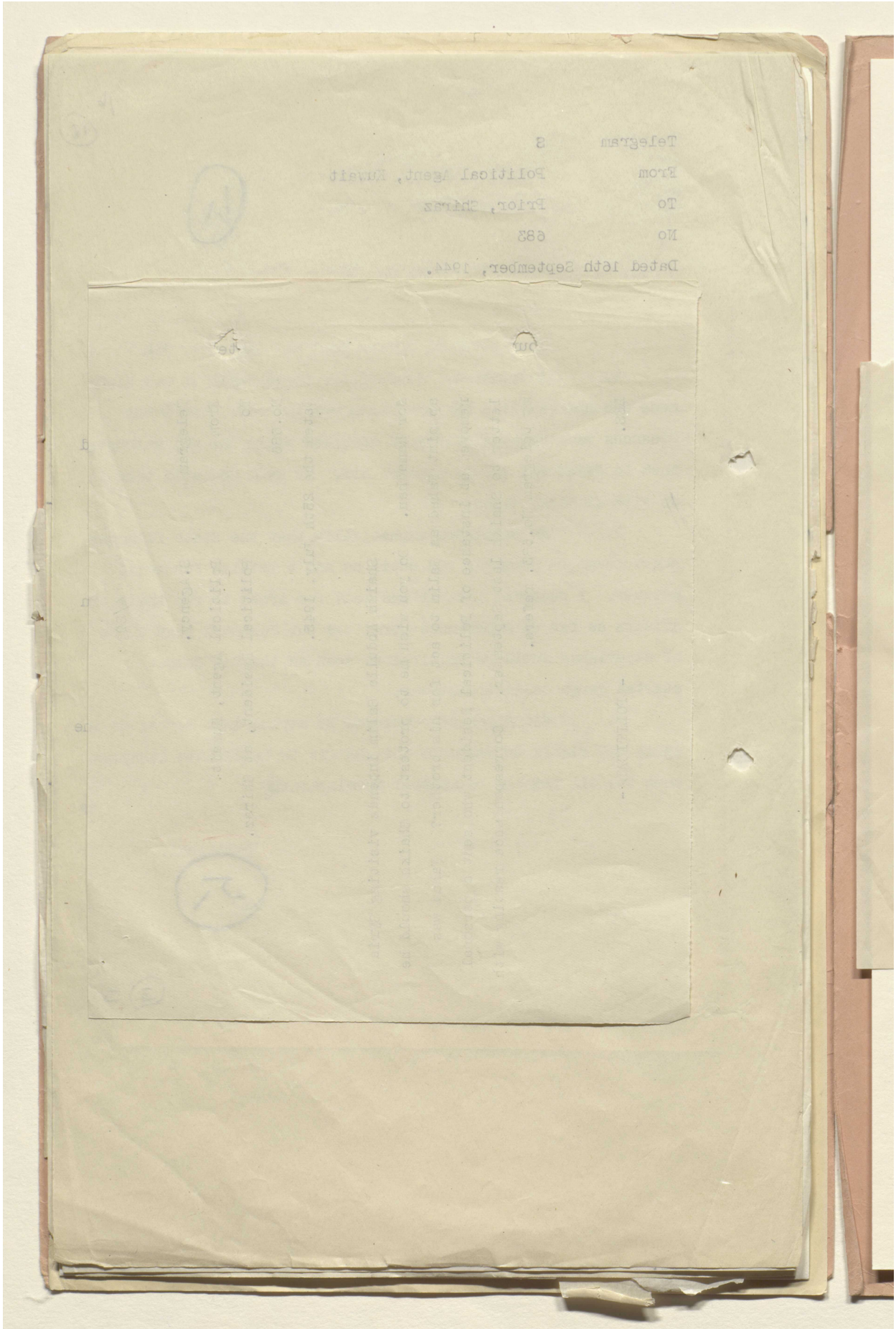
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [18v] (36/50)



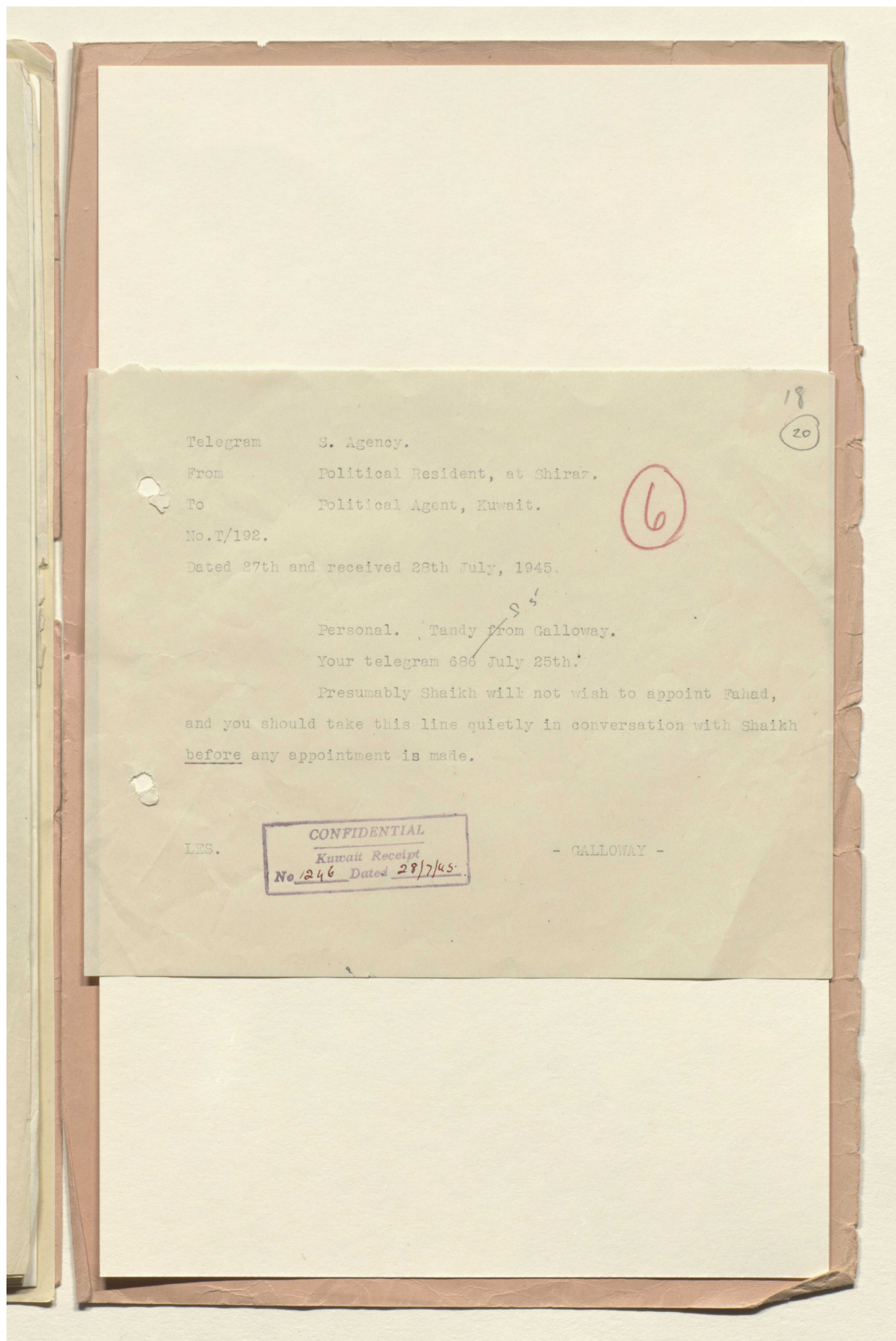
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [19r] (37/50)



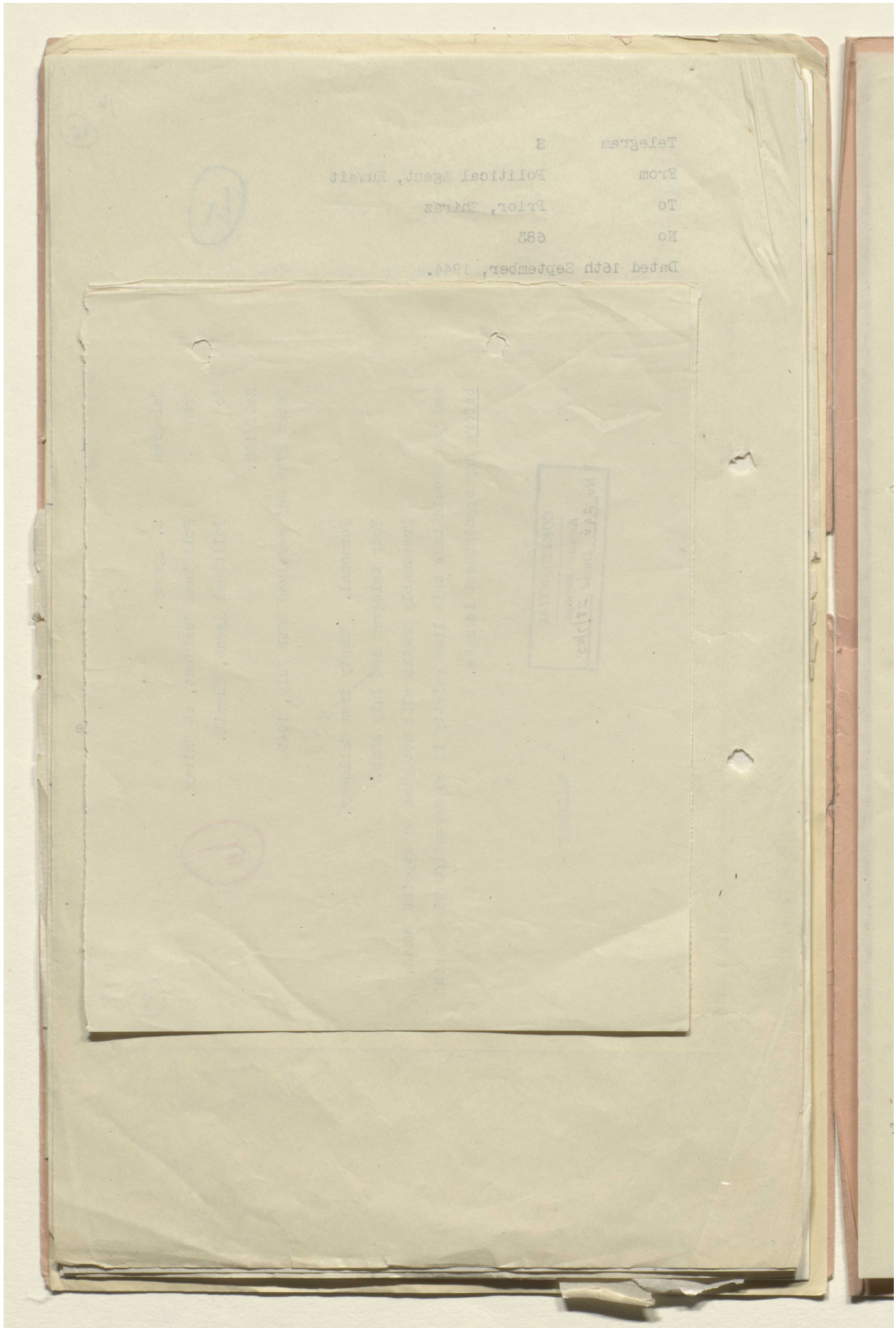
'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [19v] (38/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [20r] (39/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [20v] (40/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [21r] (41/50)

CONFIDENTIAL

No.C/367

THE POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT.

Dated the 4th June, 1946.

Subject:- Adviser for Kuwait.

Dear Colonel Hay,

Please refer to my telegram No.686 dated the 25th July, 1945. As the same question will almost certainly arise this summer I think I should let you know what happened last year.

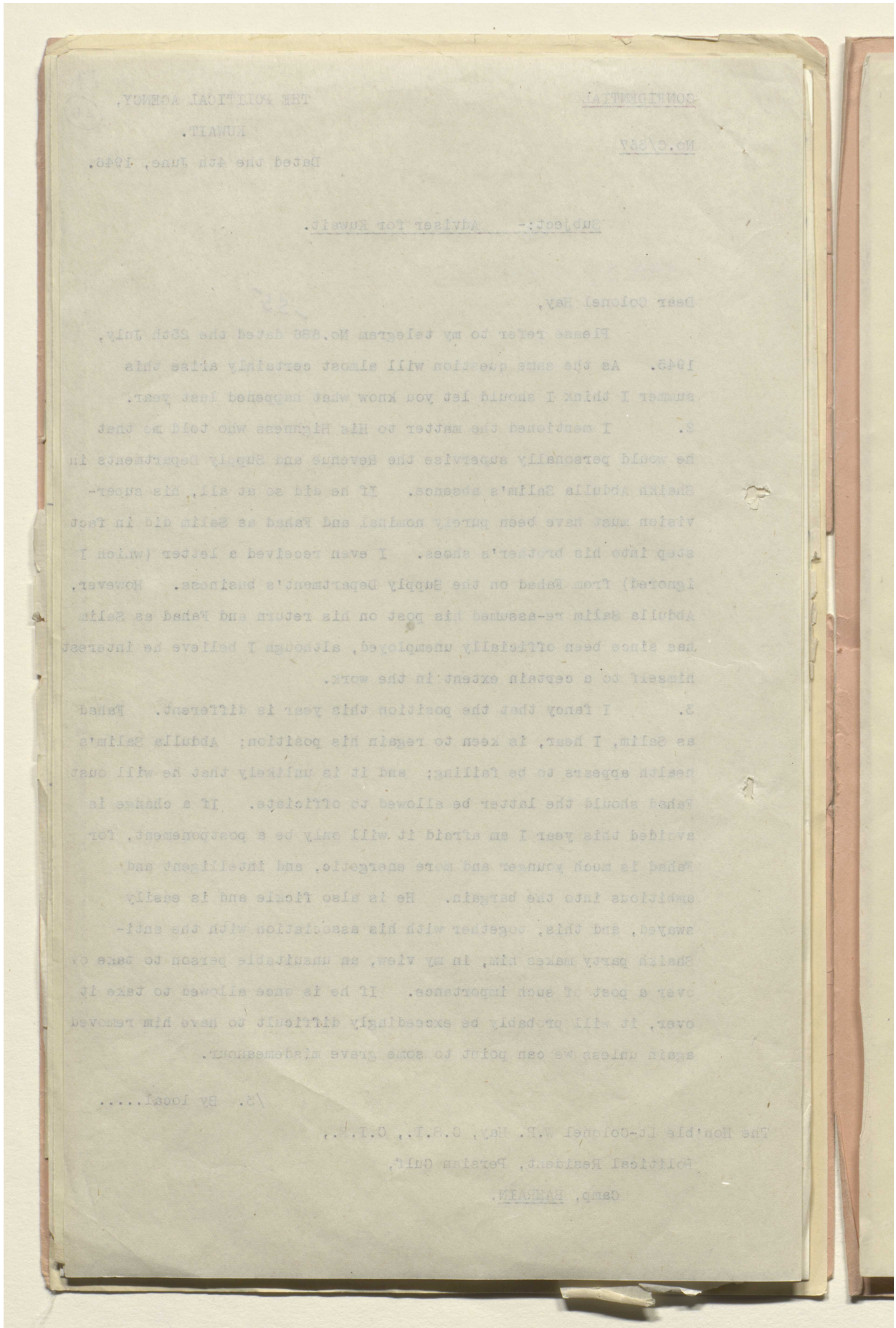
2. I mentioned the matter to His Highness who told me that he would personally supervise the Revenue and Supply Departments in Shaikh Abdulla Salim's absence. If he did so at all, his supervision must have been purely nominal and Fahad as Salim did in fact step into his brother's shoes. I even received a letter (which I ignored) from Fahad on the Supply Department's business. However, Abdulla Salim re-assumed his post on his return and Fahad as Salim has since been officially unemployed, although I believe he interest himself to a certain extent in the work.

3. I fancy that the position this year is different. Fahad as Salim, I hear, is keen to regain his position; Abdulla Salim's health appears to be failing; and it is unlikely that he will oust Fahad should the latter be allowed to officiate. If a change is avoided this year I am afraid it will only be a postponement, for Fahad is much younger and more energetic, and intelligent and ambitious into the bargain. He is also fickle and is easily swayed, and this, together with his association with the anti-Shaikh party makes him, in my view, an unsuitable person to take over a post of such importance. If he is once allowed to take it over, it will probably be exceedingly difficult to have him removed again unless we can point to some grave misdemeanour.

/3. By local.....

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel W.R. Hay, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident, Persian Gulf,
Camp, BAHRAIN.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [21v] (42/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [22r] (43/50)

2.

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4. By local custom the senior posts in the administration are only held by the "Al-Subah," and the Revenue Department has become the perquisite of the "Aulad Salim". If Abdulla Salim is allowed to relinquish his post there is no member of the "Aulad Salim", of the "Al-Subah" for that matter, with the necessary qualifications and capabilities to replace him except Fahad as Salim. I should like your permission, therefore, to impress on His Highness the desirability of retaining the services of Abdulla Salim until an outsider can be found to fill his place.

5. From next month the Revenue Department will be receiving some Rs.400,000/- monthly as oil royalties and the necessity of proper finance and budgetting will become more than ever necessary, and I am sure that His Highness would agree that the duties are beyond the capacity of any member of his family. At the same time he has not the courage to incur the odium of appointing a foreign adviser on his own initiative, and would much rather it were done in such a way that he could explain to the "Aulad Salim" that it was due to British pressure. It is my opinion that we should take the initiative in having an adviser appointed.

6. The objections to the appointment of a British Adviser seem to be:-

(a) A man with a considerable knowledge of finance would be required.. The Kuwaitis are astute; and it would be damaging to our prestige if the man appointed at our instance were not a real expert.

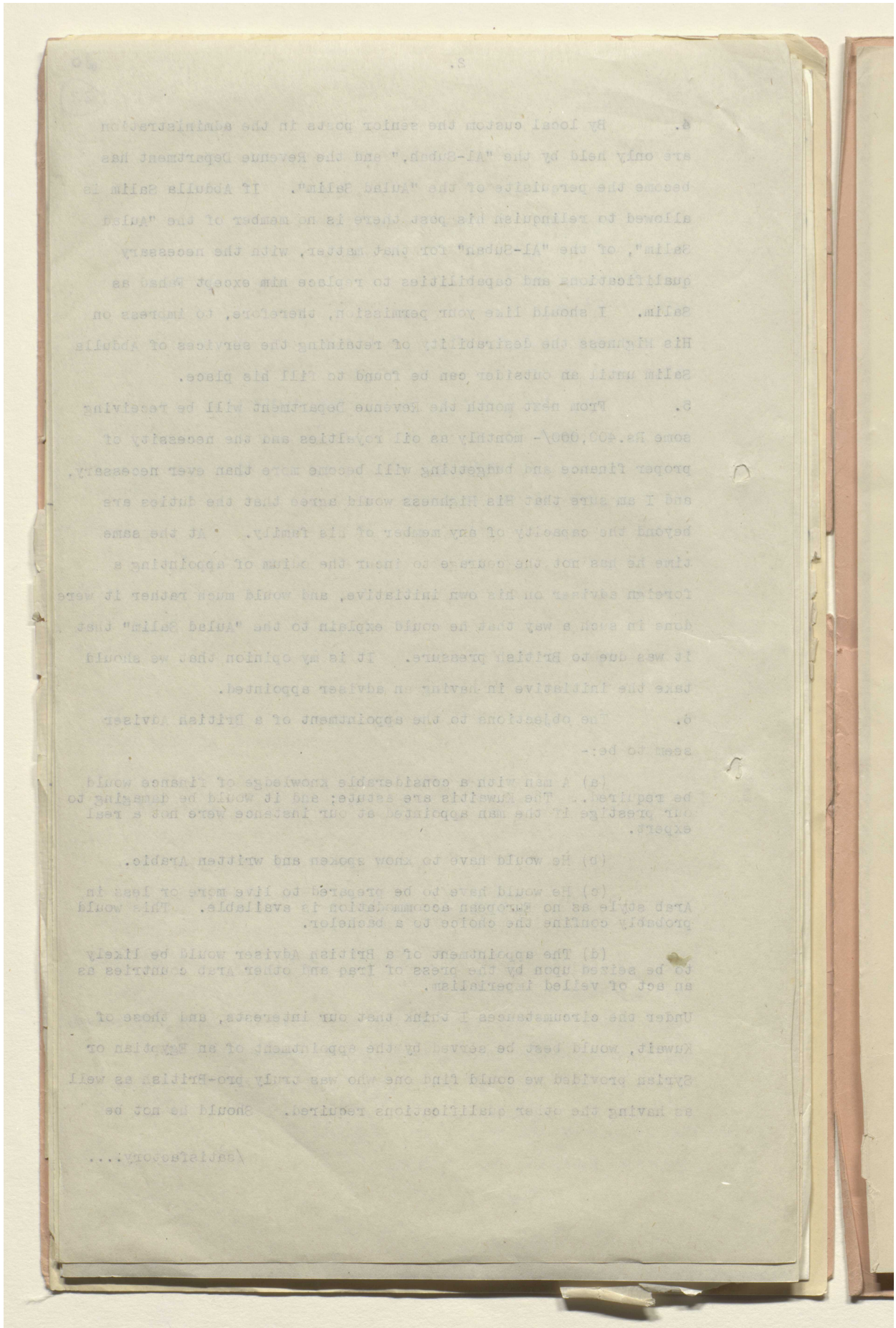
(b) He would have to know spoken and written Arabic.

(c) He would have to be prepared to live more or less in Arab style as no European accommodation is available. This would probably confine the choice to a bachelor.

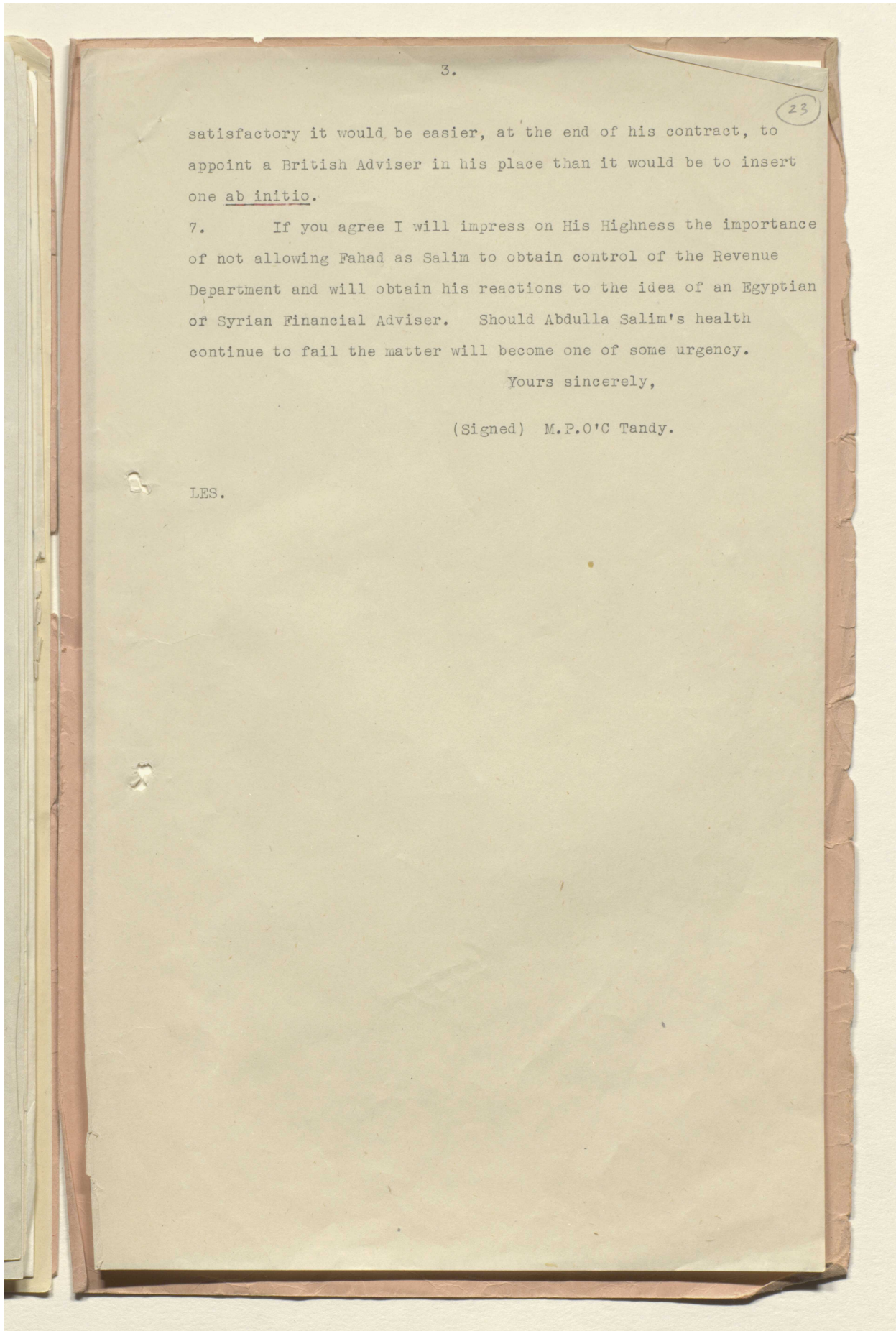
(d) The appointment of a British Adviser would be likely to be seized upon by the press of Iraq and other Arab countries as an act of veiled imperialism.

Under the circumstances I think that our interests, and those of Kuwait, would best be served by the appointment of an Egyptian or Syrian provided we could find one who was truly pro-British as well as having the other qualifications required. Should he not be

/satisfactory....

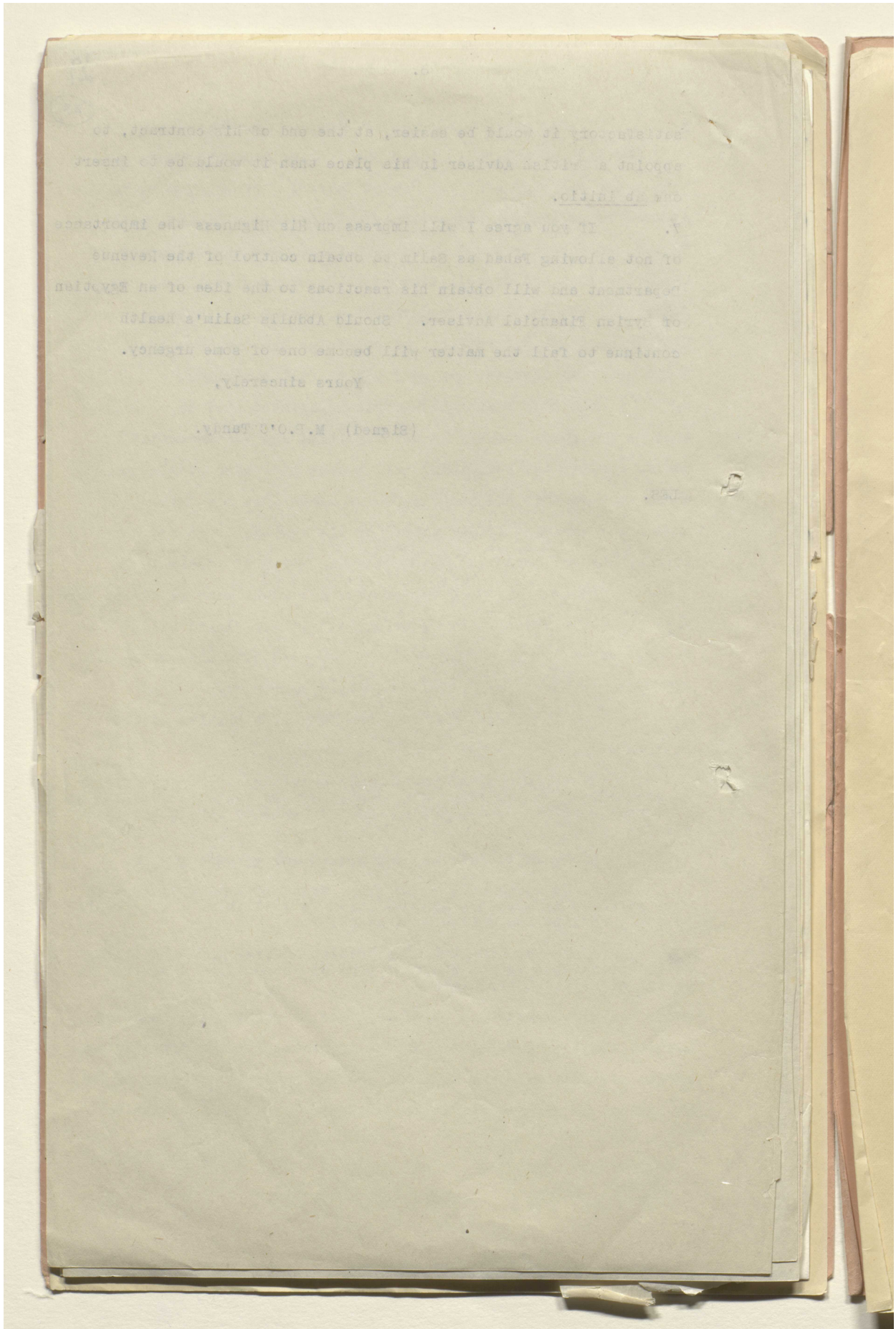


'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [23r] (45/50)



LES.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [23v] (46/50)



'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [24r] (47/50)

4/29.

22
24

Issued telegram No. 642 dated 23-8-1944 to P.R.

1. Telegram No. T/359 dated 25-8-1944 from P.R. Shiraz.

P.A. ^{4/27} 27/8

1. P.A.'s Secy. informed. W.F.
28/8.

2. What no of iso dr refer from P.R.

2. P.A. My file? W.F.
6/9. 21/9/44

3. India office telegram No. 19830 dated 7.9.44.

P.A. W.F.
15/9

3. May be filed pl? W.F.
21/9/44.

④

Issued tel No 683 dr 16/8/44 to Pirog.

Issue draft tel below to P.R. W.F.
25.7.45

⑤

Issued telegram No. 686 dt: 25/7/45 to Galloway, Shiraz W.F.
25/7

⑥

Residents telegram No T/192 dt. 27/7/45

File? W.F.
27/7

5. P.A. ^{29/7/45} 29/7/45 W.F.
29.7.45

Please issue the draft D.O. below from the "adviser" file and place a copy in this file W.F.
3.6.46

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [24v] (48/50)

(To be returned in original, with reply noted in the right hand column).

Office of the		Reply No.	
No.	Dated the 19	Dated the	19
Enclosures—			
To		To	
THE		THE	
Memo.		Memo.	
Signature.		Signature.	
Designation.		Designation.	

S-148.
MFP-1152 S&P-6923-6-(M-2187)-24-1-42-200,000.

'File 4/29 Activities of Shaikh Fahad as-Salim as-Subah' [back-i] (49/50)

