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## Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General John Malcolm, Head of Mission to Persia, to Sir Harford Jones, Envoy Extraordinary to Persia

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/67/60
<b>Date(s)</b>	29 Dec 1808 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (2 folios)
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### About this record

A copy of a letter from Brigadier-General John Malcolm to Sir Harford Jones, British Envoy Extraordinary to Persia, sent from Bombay [Mumbai] and dated 29 December 1808. The letter informs Jones of Malcolm's intention to sail for the Persian Gulf and to take control of Kharrack [Khārg] island as part of a new defence strategy in the region, and exhorts Jones to withdraw from Persia.

Copy of a Letter from Brigadier-General John Malcolm, Head of Mission to Persia,  
to Sir Harford Jones Bart. & Co. [1r] (1/4)

L/PS/9/67/60. 1000  
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To  
Sir Harford Jones Bart. & Co.  
Gen. Gen. Gen.

Sir,

I have requested the Government of Bombay to dispatch one of the Honble Com-  
pany's Cruizers for the express purpose of  
affording me an opportunity of informing you  
that I shall in conformity to the orders of the  
Supreme Government Sail for the Gulph  
of Persia in twelve or fifteen days with the  
expedition under my command which con-  
sists of near two thousand men, and an  
adequate proportion of ordnance and Militia  
-ary Stores.

You are already informed of  
the purposes, for which this expedition has been  
equipped, I can only add, that agreeable to  
the instructions I have received it will become

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to Sir Harford Jones, Envoy Extraordinary to Persia [1v] (2/4)

my duty to seize the Island of Kharruk the  
moment I arrive in the Gulph and if I can  
not effect this object by an amicable arrange-  
ment with the Garrison and Inhabitants  
I must proceed instantly to accomplish  
it by force of Arms.

I have perused all your dispatches  
from Abusheher to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November last  
but as they appear to contain no encourage-  
ment with regard to the prospect of success  
through the means of Negotiation beyond  
that which the Governor General contempla-  
tes as likely to be given to the Mission, with  
which you are charged, I do not feel myself  
at liberty to suspend for one moment,  
the measures I have been directed to carry  
into execution. I indeed conclude it  
most probable that you will, in conformi-  
ty to the instructions conveyed in the  
Governor



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(2)

Governor Generals letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> October  
have withdrawn from Persia before this dis-  
patch can reach Abusheher, but should the  
case be otherwise the arrival of the Cruizer  
which conveys this dispatch and which will  
probably reach Abusheher twenty days be-  
fore the Fleet on board of which the Troops  
are embarked, <sup>will</sup> afford you ample time for  
making such arrangements, as you deem  
best, to prevent that serious embarrassment  
which must result from your remaining  
in Persia in the conduct of an amicable  
negotiation, while I am conducting spe-  
rations which however grounded upon de-  
fensive principles must at least excite  
a feeling of momentary irritation and  
resentment. & & of the mind of the  
King of Persia.

The Cruizer which conveys the  
dispatch



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29<sup>th</sup> Decr 1808

dispatch has been directed to carry no private Letters, and every precaution has been taken by this Government that the ease admitted to prevent the transmission of those exaggerated reports of our designs, which are likely to be forwarded by the Persian Residents here to their Correspondents in Persia, and these measures will almost, be so far successful as to enable you to adopt what line you judge best relative to your Mission, before a general alarm is taken by the Government of Persia, with regard to that change of Policy upon which the Governor General has resolved.

I have the honor to be  
Sir  
Yours  
(Signed) John Malcolm  
Brigadier General  
true copy  
Henry Ellis  
Capt

Bombay  
29<sup>th</sup> December 1808

to Sir H. Jones.