

3
1916.RETURN TO
NATIONAL
ARCHIVES OF INDIA

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.**POLITICAL—A.****Proceedings, March 1916, nos. 619—665.****Sedition in the Burma Military Police.****The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.****Extension of sections 3—11 of the Defence of India Act to certain districts of Burma.****TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

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PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

- Political A., October 1915, nos. 248—254.
 „ A., October 1915, nos. 85—90.
 „ B., January 1916, nos. 383—385.

LATER REFERENCES.

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NOTES.

POLITICAL—A., MARCH 1916.

Nos. 619—665.

SEDITION IN THE BURMA MILITARY POLICE.

THE PYAWBWAY CONSPIRACY CASE.

Demi-official telegram from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, no. 121-W., dated the 1st December 1915.

Report for the second half of November 1915 on the internal political situation in Burma. There has been nothing noteworthy except the discovery of a conspiracy which affects the reserve battalion of the Burma Military Police at Pyawbway in Upper Burma. It has been ascertained that some months ago six seditionists from Siam visited the battalion. A havildar who has confessed has surrendered a Browning pistol and some explosives. Some time ago five of the seditionists were arrested and confined, but they had approached the battalion before their presence in Burma was discovered. The sixth seditionist has not yet been arrested. Only two or three members of the battalion besides the havildar have so far been implicated by the disclosures, but inquiries are proceeding. A full report on the matter will be made separately. Otherwise there is at present no reason to modify the previous favourable opinions about the Military Police and Troops in Burma. Under other heads, except that one Burman was ordered to remain at a village till further orders, there is nothing to report.

A duplicate copy of the above report just received from Burma is submitted for information (the original is being printed up and dealt with on the usual lines). The Burma Government have promised a separate report about the tampering with the reserve battalion of the Burma Military Police at Pyawbway in Upper Burma.

A. L.,—2-12-15.

Army Department and Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see.

S. R. HIGNELL,—2-12-15.

His Excellency should also see.

H. WHEELER,—3-12-15.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—3-12-15.

The Burma telegram of the 1st instant is submitted for His Excellency's information.

H. WHEELER,—3-12-15.

H[ARDINGE],—4-12-15.

Demi-official from H. A. F. Metcalfe, Esq., Assistant Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy, to the Hon'ble Mr. H. Wheeler, C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Delhi, the 11th December 1915.

I think you ought to see this telegram, though possibly no action is required. I am not repeating to His Excellency as it is hardly worth while now (6 p.m.), the telegram having only just reached me, but I will see that it is brought to his notice as soon as he returns to-morrow morning.

Demi-official telegram from the Lieutenant-Governor, Burma, to His Excellency the Viceroy, no. 547, dated Victoria Point, the 10th December 1915.

I arranged before leaving Rangoon to remove Moola Dawood who acted as Turkish Consul before the outbreak of war and who is the head of the pro-German Muhammadan party in
S13HD

Rangoon and twelve others to Island difficult of access. We have information indicating conspiracy in Rangoon. Action has been taken. I do not anticipate trouble. On the morning of the 14th I reach Rangoon. Major Steiner, head of Siamese Gendarmes, who has been sent here to report to his Government tells me that there is nothing serious here.

Pro. no. 619. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 139-W., DATED THE 11TH DECEMBER 1915.

Telegram from Burma, no. 547.—For information.

Telegram from Burma, no. 139-W.—For information. Director, Criminal Intelligence, and His Excellency may see. It is for orders whether the India Office should be informed. Army and Foreign and Political Departments may also see for information.

(We have not yet received the full report from Burma promised in their telegram of 1st December.)

A. L.,—13-12-15.

I don't think we need inform the India Office at this stage. Our information is not very complete.

S. R. HIGNELL,—13-12-15.

Director, Criminal Intelligence, and His Excellency may see.

H. WHEELER,—13-12-15.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—13-12-15.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—15-12-15.

Home Department.

Pro. no. 620. LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 27-W.-18-5, DATED THE 2ND DECEMBER 1915.

The main file containing two telegrams from Burma regarding the arrest of certain persons in Rangoon was sent yesterday to Director, Criminal Intelligence, to see. This file may be sent in continuation.

A. L.,—14-12-15.

S. R. HIGNELL,—14-12-15.

Yes. They have evidently tampered with men of the Military Police, but do not seem to have made much way.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—14-12-15.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

The main file was returned to Home Department under my unofficial endorsement no. 610-N.N., dated the 16th December 1915. For the present I have retained the enclosures to the Burma letter under consideration as they are of special interest and require working on in my office. I spoke about this to Mr. Wheeler.

Yes; I agreed.

H. WHEELER,—17-12-15.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—17-12-15.

Home Department.

Submitted for orders whether His Excellency should now see—*vide* notes above. The enclosures to the Burma Government have been kept by Director, Criminal Intelligence.

A. L.,—18-12-15.

S. R. HIGNELL,—18-12-15.

His Excellency has already seen the Burma telegram of the 10th instant. The recent letter without the detailed statements contains little new. We may await further developments but let Army Department see the file now.

H. WHEELER,—19-12-15.

Army Department.

[NOTES IN THE GENERAL STAFF BRANCH.]

Seen in the General Staff Branch with thanks.

W. C. BLACK,—22-12-15,
M. O. 3.

May be returned with thanks to the Home Department.

Submitted for information. The enclosures to the Burma Government letter of December 2nd have been retained by Sir C. Cleveland.

B. HOLLOWAY,—24-12-15.
B. DUFF,—24-12-15.

Home Department.

Demi-official telegram from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, no. 162-W., dated the 17th December 1915.

The following is the report on the internal situation in Burma during the first fortnight of December. Nothing noteworthy has occurred except in connection with the conspiracy discovered in the reserve battalion of the Military Police, which has already been reported, and the precautionary measures taken in connection with certain Germans and Indians of which the Government of India is already aware. Investigation into the conspiracy is still being continued, but nothing definite has been ascertained beyond the facts which have already been reported. In consequence of the receipt of information leading up to the discovery of a pro-German party at Rangoon twelve Indian merchants and others believed to be ringleaders were ordered to reside at Kyaukpyu and proceeded there on His Majesty's Ship "Psyche." Similar action has been taken in respect of a Burman who was in 1888 transported for life. His inclination to rebellion since his return from the Andamans has been apparent in 1912 and recently. Thirteen Germans and one Austrian, of whom twelve are British subjects, are also about to be sent to Ahmednagar. As regards the above-mentioned Indians who were removed from Rangoon, their houses were searched but nothing incriminating discovered. In consequence of information having been received from the British Minister at Peking that a Jew named Joseph, formerly residing at Rangoon, was suspected of communicating with the enemy, search warrants were issued and a note-book and letters were discovered written apparently in Yiddish. These are being translated, but the contents are not yet known. Sanction has also been given to the prosecution of four Gurkhas residing near the regimental lines at Maymyo for attempting to excite disaffection by making certain statements to the men of the 10th Gurkha Rifles. Their motive, however, was apparently spite against the regiment and not any intention of assisting the enemy. There is no definite information at present requiring any modification of the favourable opinions previously expressed regarding the attitude of the Military Police and Indian Troops in Burma, except for the conspiracy at Pyawbway and the suspicion that it has reached further than what has yet been ascertained.

A spare copy of the Burma telegram received yesterday is submitted for information. (The original is being dealt with along with other fortnightly reports. The main file about sedition amongst the Military Police is at present with Army Department.)

A. L.,—22-12-15.

H. WHEELER,—22-12-15.
R. H. CRADDOCK,—22-12-15.

Let Army Department see.

H. WHEELER,—23-12-15.

Army Department.

Seen in General Staff Branch.

W. C. BLACK,—24-12-15,
M. O. 3.

[NOTES IN THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S BRANCH.]

Seen in A. G. 10.

H. BARSTOW,—29-12-15.
B. HOLLOWAY,—30-12-15.

Home Department.

Pro. no. 621. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 25-W.F., DATED THE 15TH JANUARY 1916.

There are two points for consideration :—

- (1) the extension of sections 3 to 11 of the Defence of India Act to the whole of Burma ;
- (2) enquiry whether the Siamese Government have any objection to the six Indians mentioned being placed on their trial.

No. (1) is to some extent dependent on no. (2) and we may therefore dispose of no. (2) before considering no. (1).

A draft telegram is placed below to His Majesty's Minister, Bangkok, for approval. Foreign and Political Department may be asked whether they see any objection to its issue.

A. L.,—18-1-16.

The Burma Government has not explained why it is necessary to extend the sections to the whole of Burma. After issue of the telegram below, I think we may enquire from Burma as above.

S. R. HIGNELL,—18-1-16.

The telegram may issue if the Foreign and Political Department concurs.

2. As regards the extension of sections 3 *et seq.* of the Defence of India Act the Benares and Balasore precedents are in favour of a more limited extension than to the whole province. We may point this out to Burma and ask why it will not suffice.

H. WHEELER,—18-1-16.

Yes; certainly. To extend these sections to the whole of Burma is unnecessary, and it also creates a false impression about the state of Burma.

R. H. C[REDDOCK],—19-1-16.

Foreign and Political Department.

The Siam Government have been most accommodating and have handed over the men in question and others to us, in a more or less executive manner, to deal* with as we think fit. To address them now through the Minister and ask them formally to agree to judicial proceedings against men deported from Siam without the regular procedure of extradition, could only put the Siam Government in a somewhat awkward position, and force them for the future to reconsider their position in regard to such deportees. Unless the law makes it essential that there should be on the record of the case some formal declaration from the Siam Government stating that they agree to the proceedings, I would strongly deprecate any reference to the Siam Government through the British Minister. The most I would recommend is that the Minister himself should be informed of the action which it is proposed to take, and that we should add that we presume that, in spite of the fact that there has been no formal extradition, there is no objection to the proceedings. I would suggest, therefore, that in the draft telegram for the words "As formal extradition.....any objection" the following should be substituted :—

A. H. GRANT.

"We presume that, although no formal extradition proceedings were taken in regard to these persons, there is no objection to proceeding against them at once. It would possibly embarrass Siam Government to consult them about this matter and would raise question of extradition, which had better be avoided. [Please telegraph if you agree.]"

2. If, however, for the purposes of law it is absolutely essential that a declaration should be obtained from the Siam Government to the effect that they have no objection to the proceedings, we must concur in the draft as it stands.

A. H. GRANT,—19-1-16.

Home Department.

X

I agree that Mr. Grant's draft is preferable so long as there is no legal objection, but we had better let the Legislative Department see.

H. WHEELER,—19-1-16.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—19-1-16.

Legislative Department.

I can see no legal reason whatever why any reference should be made to Siam. The question whether these men ought to have been handed over is a question for the Siamese authorities who, presumably know their own law. In any event it cannot affect their trial now. If regular extradition proceedings had been taken the case might have been complicated by the question whether their offence was of a political character. I put up the Extradition Treaty with Siam but I do not think it affects the case.

A. P. MUDDIMAN,—19-1-16.

I entirely agree.

G. R. LOWNDES,—19-1-16.

Home Department.

In view of the above notes I would omit the last five words of Mr. Grant's draft amendment.

A telegram to Burma is also submitted.

H. WHEELER,—20-1-16.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—20-1-16.

TELEGRAM TO HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S MINISTER, BANGKOK, NO. 127, DATED THE 20TH JAN. 1916. Pro. no. 622.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 128, DATED THE 20TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 623.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 31-W., DATED THE 18TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 624.

The Government of Burma request that—

- (a) (1) Cholia Ram, son of Shankar Das, and
- (2) Bassawa Singh, son of Chanda Singh,
be sent to Rangoon. From the correspondence on page 14 and from the linked file it will be seen that these two people are at present in custody in Calcutta. We may telegraph to the Government of Bengal to send them to Rangoon. Draft put up.
- (b) The Straits Settlements Government be asked to send Amar Singh, son of Warriam Singh, to Rangoon. A draft to the Straits Settlements Government is put up.
- (c) The British Minister, Bangkok, be asked to move the Siamese Government to hand over the four persons mentioned to the Burma authorities. We may telegraph to the British Minister as in draft below. The Foreign and Political Department and the Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see before issue.

A. L.,—21-1-16.

Drafts Nos. I and II may issue. I cannot follow the request of the Burma Government contained in the last part of its telegram. Penang is, I understand, a purely British Settlement, and I cannot see where the Siamese Government comes in. We had better make a further reference to the Burma Government on this point.

S. R. HIGNELL,—22-1-16.

Unless Director, Criminal Intelligence, knows of any reason to the contrary the first and second drafts seem suitable.

I agree that the third point is unintelligible unless the Director, Criminal Intelligence, can throw some light upon it.

H. WHEELER,—24-1-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

S13HD

Pro. no. 625. TELEGRAM FROM HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTER, BANGKOK, DATED THE 21ST JANUARY 1916.

Mr. Vincent handed me the above communication to-day. It is an answer to our telegram of the 20th instant but Director, Criminal Intelligence's Office did not know to what it referred and hence the delay. The reply is satisfactory.

2. In the absence of Sir C. Cleveland, Mr. Vincent also returned the file. He thinks there is no objection to the drafts to Bengal and Singapore, which may now issue. He does not understand the reference in the Burma telegram of the 18th instant to four men at Penang, and can only imagine it is a mistake for Bangkok. He also says they cannot trace who Bhadwhan Singh is. He suggested that we might authorise Burma to address Bangkok direct but I think this is on the whole inadvisable. A draft reply to Burma is submitted.

H. WHEELER,—26-1-16.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—26-1-16.

Pro. no. 626. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, NO. 167, DATED THE 26TH JANUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 627. TELEGRAM TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SINGAPORE, NO. 168, DATED THE 27TH JANUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 628. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 172, DATED THE 27TH JANUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 629. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 36-W., DATED THE 22ND JANUARY 1916.

Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see for remarks both requests, viz., (1) for sending the documents and articles found in the possession of Ishan Das in Vancouver and (2) about addressing the Canadian Government.

A. L.,—25-1-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—25-1-16.

H. WHEELER,—25-1-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

F. A. M. H. VINCENT,—25-1-16.

Home Department.

Pro. no. 630. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 89, DATED 25TH JANUARY 1916.

In anticipation of the revised proposals now submitted by the local Government being accepted, a draft notification extending sections 3—11 of the Defence of India Act to the districts of Burma named in this telegram is submitted for approval. The Government of Burma may be informed of the issue of this notification as in the draft telegram submitted.

There is, perhaps, no need for the Legislative Department, Army Department or Director, Criminal Intelligence, to see this file again at this stage.

A. L.,—28-1-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—28-1-16.

We may accept this reduced list of districts. His Excellency should see.

H. WHEELER,—28-1-16.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—28-1-16.

Summary.

His Excellency will remember that certain men were arrested in Burma who had come across from Siam and endeavoured to tamper with troops, etc. This has led to the institution of a conspiracy case against some 15 accused (this number may eventually be raised slightly).

In a telegram of the 15th January Sir H. Butler asked for the extension to the whole of Burma of sections 3 *et seq.* of the Defence of India Act in order that the case could be tried by a special tribunal and finished quickly. The Home Department took exception to so wide an extension, and in his telegram of the 25th instant the Lieutenant-Governor has reduced his request to the districts of Rangoon Town, Amherst, Yamethin, and Mandalay.

The Home Department support the proposal in that form and with His Excellency's permission the necessary notification may issue in to-morrow's Gazette.

It will be observed that the personnel of the tribunal will be strong, namely—

Mr. Justice Robinson
 Mr. Justice Maung Kin Sha Kiang } of the Chief Court.
 Mr. McColl (probably), Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

H. WHEELER,—28-1-16.

H[ARDINGE],—28-1-16.

NOTIFICATION NO. 187, DATED THE 28TH JANUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 631.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 196, DATED THE 29TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 632.

We may now forward copies of the notification to the India Office and the Government of Burma, and the latter may also be asked according to precedent to issue instructions to secure the exemption from the jurisdiction of any Commissioners appointed under section 4 of the Act of European British subjects born in Europe or their children. Drafts submitted.

A. L.,—30-1-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—1-2-16.

H. WHEELER,—1-2-16.

LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 423, DATED THE 2ND FEBRUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 633.

LETTER TO THE INDIA OFFICE, NO. 424, DATED THE 22ND FEBRUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 634.

I. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 45-W., DATED THE 29TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 635.

II. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 45-W., DATED THE 30TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 636.

III. LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, NO. 1537-P., DATED THE 28TH JANUARY 1916. Pro. no. 637.

I. We may now ask His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Bangkok to move the Siamese Government to deport the individuals the Burma Government want. Draft telegram submitted.

II. The Colonial Secretary, Singapore, may be asked to comply with the Burma Government's request if there is no objection. Draft telegram submitted.

III. For information only. No orders.

After issue of the above telegrams the Army Department and the Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see.

A. L.,—2-2-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—4-2-16.

H. WHEELER,—4-2-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SINGAPORE, NO. 450, DATED THE 4TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 638.

TELEGRAM TO HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S MINISTER AT BANGKOK, NO. 455, DATED THE 5TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 639.

I. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 52-W., DATED THE 2ND FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 640.

II. LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, NO. 209-X., DATED THE 5TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 641.

III. TELEGRAM FROM THE BRITISH MINISTER, BANGKOK, DATED THE 7TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 642.

I. From another file we know that Chet Ram is at present at Calcutta. A draft telegram to the Government of Bengal asking them to comply with the Burma Government's request is accordingly submitted for approval. After issue the file may be passed on to the Army Department and the Director, Criminal Intelligence, as ordered above.

II is for information only.

III. The word "Kington" is evidently a mistake for "Ralla" for by the change of one figure the word "Kingos" becomes "Ralla" and "Ralla" Singh is one of the four referred to in the Burma telegram of the 1st January 1915. We may telegraph as in draft II to Bangkok.

A. L.,—7-2-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—8-2-16.

Pro. no. 643. TELEGRAM TO HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTER, BANGKOK, NO. 474, DATED THE 8TH FEBRUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 644. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, NO. 475, DATED THE 8TH FEBRUARY 1916.

Pro. no. 645. TELEGRAM FROM THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SINGAPORE, DATED THE 7TH FEBRUARY 1916.

His Britannic Majesty's Minister may be addressed as in the draft telegram submitted. After issue the file may be passed on to the Army Department and Director, Criminal Intelligence, as ordered above.

A. L.,—9-2-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—9-2-16.

H. WHEELER,—9-2-16.

Pro. no. 646. TELEGRAM TO HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S MINISTER, BANGKOK, NO. 504, DATED THE 10TH FEBRUARY 1916.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Seen.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—11-2-16.

Home Department.

Pro. no. 647. TELEGRAM FROM HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S MINISTER, BANGKOK, DATED THE 12TH FEBRUARY 1916.

For information. This telegram may be repeated to the Government of Burma for their information. Draft submitted. After issue Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see. The Army Department have also to see the file, *vide* notes page 7 *etc.*

Issue without troubling Secretary, who is in Council.

A. L.,—14-2-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—15-2-16.

Pro. no. 648. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 638, DATED THE 15TH FEBRUARY 1916.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Seen and returned with thanks.

D. PETRIE,—22-2-16.

Home Department.

Army Department.

[NOTES IN THE GENERAL STAFF BRANCH.]

Seen in the General Staff Branch.

W. C. BLACK,—25-2-16,

M. O. 3.

May be returned with thanks to the Home Department.

E. A. D.,—25-2-16.

A. H. O. SPENCE,—25-2-16.

Home Department.

[NOTES IN THE CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.]

I submit a draft telegram to Secretary of State which explains itself.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—11-2-16.

Home Department.

S. R. HIGNELL,—12-2-16.

H. WHEELER,—12-2-16.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—13-2-16.

Private Secretary Viceroy's office may be asked kindly to issue. His Excellency need not be troubled.

H. WHEELER,—13-2-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NO. 206, DATED THE 14TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 649.

LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, NO. 413-X., DATED THE 18TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 650.

Submitted. (The main file was sent to the Army Department under unofficial no. 1097, dated the 23rd February 1916.)

A. L.,—25-2-16.

Add thus to it on its return.

S. R. HIGNELL,—25-2-16.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 86-W., DATED THE 23RD FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 651.

Submitted. We asked the Secretary of State on the 14th instant to obtain, if possible, from Canada the evidence wanted by the Government of Burma. So far we have not heard from the Secretary of State. A reminder hardly seems called for as yet.

A. L.,—25-2-16.

We can hardly remind before March 1.

We can tell the Burma Government of the action taken by us in the matter.

S. R. HIGNELL,—26-2-16.

We cannot remind, but we might wire to the Secretary of State in continuation as drafted.

H. WHEELER,—27-2-16.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—28-2-16.

Will Private Secretary to Viceroy's office kindly issue. His Excellency need not be troubled.

H. WHEELER,—28-2-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NO. 266, DATED THE 29TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 652.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 97-W., DATED THE 26TH FEBRUARY 1916. Pro. no. 653.

Budha Singh and Inder Singh are two of the men who were sent to Calcutta from Singapore and about whom orders were issued on the 18th February that they should be sent to Delhi. It has just been ascertained informally from the Chief Commissioner's Office that these men left Calcutta on the 27th and are expected in Delhi on the 29th (to-morrow). We may accordingly ask the Chief Commissioner to send them to Burma at once. A draft is placed below. Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see after issue as Mr. Petrie may want to see the men before they leave.

A. L.,—29-2-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see at once.

S. R. HIGNELL,—28-2-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Seen and returned with thanks. I do not want to see these men before they go. They are both very deeply involved in the Siam plot.

D. PETRIE,—29-2-16.

Home Department.

The draft may now issue.

A. L.,—29-2-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—29-2-16.

Pro. no. 654. LETTER TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, DELHI, NO. 850, DATED THE 1ST MARCH 1916.

Pro. no. 655. TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DATED THE 2ND MARCH 1916.

Repeat this to Burma with reference to previous correspondence.

H. WHEELER,—3-3-16.

Pro. no. 656. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 876, DATED THE 4TH MARCH 1916.

[NOTES IN THE CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.]

With reference to this office unofficial no. 1472-26, dated the 11th February 1916, will the Home Department kindly let us know whether a reply has been received to the telegram to the Secretary of State for India asking for certain evidence from Canada in the case against Harnam Singh of Sahri. If no reply has been received, I suggest that a reminder be issued. The matter from the point of view of Burma is somewhat urgent.

D. PETRIE,—3-3-16.

Home Department.

With reference to the above note, Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see the telegrams to and from the Secretary of State dated the 29th February and 2nd March 1916, respectively.

A. L.,—6-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—7-3-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Seen and returned with thanks.

D. PETRIE,—8-3-16.

Home Department

Pro. no. 657. TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DATED THE 7TH MARCH 1916.

As directed verbally by Secretary this telegram may be repeated to Burma, who may be asked to communicate the views of the local Government to us. Draft put up. After issue Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see.

A. L.,—8-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—8-3-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 914, DATED 8TH MARCH 1916.
Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Pro. no. 658.

Detective Carlow will be of no use whatever. Canada, I think, have not clearly understood what is wanted when they write "There is no substantial evidence to connect Harnam Singh with the *Ghadr*." We never expected this from them. What we do want is evidence to connect Harnam Singh with his own papers found in Victoria which speak plainly enough as to his connection with the *Ghadr*, without any further evidence. Hopkinson's letter to the Minister for the Interior, dated 17th September 1914, which was alluded to in the first telegram to the Secretary of State, clearly states that Hopkinson took two city detectives with him to search Harnam Singh's premises. It also makes it clear that Hopkinson found Harnam Singh's correspondence with the wife of one Baboo, a white woman, who actually made it over to Hopkinson. We particularly want to enable Burma to prove these letters and this woman would be just the witness needed, as she must also know Harnam Singh. The question is very important and I put up a fresh draft telegram, which I suggest Home Department might send direct to Canada (in view of the urgency of the case), sending a copy to the Secretary of State.

D. PETRIE,—10-3-16.

Mr. Petrie's note and the draft telegram explain the case and its urgency.

F. A. M. H. VINCENT,—10-3-16.

Home Department.

For orders whether the draft telegram may issue.

A. L.,—10-3-16.

Yes; if Burma raises any further point we can telegraph in continuation.

H. WHEELER,—11-3-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA, REPEATED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, PRO. NO. 659.
NO. 313-314, DATED THE 11TH MARCH 1916.

TELEGRAM FROM HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S MINISTER AT BANGKOK, DATED THE 10TH MARCH 1916. PRO. NO. 660.

This telegram may be repeated to the Government of Burma for information. Draft submitted. After issue Director, Criminal Intelligence, may see.

A. L.,—11-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—11-3-16.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 968, DATED THE 11TH MARCH 1916. PRO. NO. 661.
Director, Criminal Intelligence.

Seen and returned with thanks.

D. PETRIE,—16-3-16.

Home Department.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 145-W., DATED THE 14TH MARCH 1916. PRO. NO. 662.

The main file was sent to the Director, Criminal Intelligence, yesterday. This telegram may be passed on to him in continuation for favour of remarks.

A. L.,—15-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—15-3-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

We may, I think, accept the Burma Government's view.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—16-3-16.

Home Department.

Pro. no. 663. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA, DATED THE 15TH MARCH 1916.

This telegram may be passed on to the Director, Criminal Intelligence, at once as in view of the telegram received from the Government of Burma yesterday it may not be necessary for Detective Carlow to come to India.

A. L.,—16-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—16-3-16.

Director, Criminal Intelligence.

We may reply to Canada that no evidence from there is now required.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—16-3-16.

Home Department.

Please see Director, Criminal Intelligence's notes of to-day's date. A draft telegram to Canada is submitted for approval. It is addressed to Canada and not the Secretary of State in view of the urgency of the matter, Canada having definitely stated that they are sending Detective Carlow. This telegram may, however, be repeated to the Secretary of State. There is, perhaps, no need to trouble His Excellency.

A. L.,—16-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—16-3-16.

As proposed ; I will speak to Hon'ble Member (who is not immediately available) afterwards.

H. WHEELER,—16-3-16.

Pro. no. 664. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA, REPEATED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NO. 331-332, DATED THE 17TH MARCH 1916.

The papers are for information. We should let Burma know that the idea of Canadian evidence has been dropped.

H. WHEELER,—18-3-16.

R. H. CRADDOCK,—18-3-16.

In compliance with Secretary's order above a draft telegram to the Government of Burma is submitted for approval.

A. L.,—18-3-16.

S. R. HIGNELL,—20-3-16.

Pro. no. 665. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA, NO. 1034, DATED THE 21ST MARCH 1916.

Exd. by—E.A.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

[Nos. 619—621.]

**SEDITION IN THE BURMA MILITARY POLICE.
THE PYAWBWAY CONSPIRACY CASE.
EXTENSION OF SECTIONS 3—11 OF THE DEFENCE OF INDIA ACT TO CERTAIN DISTRICTS OF
BURMA.**

Telegram P., no. 139-W., dated Rangoon, the 11th December 1915.

Pro. no. 619.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

It is reported for information that the local Government has ordered the removal from Rangoon under the Defence of India Rules of fifteen Indian residents of Rangoon and has required them to reside at Kyaukpyu until further orders. Amongst the number is an Indian merchant who before the outbreak of the war was Turkish Consul here. The reasons which have induced this action are the discovery of a conspiracy affecting the Military Police, which has already been reported to the Government of India, and owing to the receipt of information by the Criminal Investigation Department of a plot in Rangoon in which twelve of the persons are ringleaders. The remaining three individuals are servants. Owing to the interruption of the ordinary steamship communication with the Arakan Coast the deportees were conveyed on H. M. S. "Psyche." They left Rangoon on the 8th instant and arrived at Kyaukpyu on the 10th, where accommodation has been provided for them.

No. 27-W-1-S-5, dated Rangoon, the 2nd December 1915.

Pro. no. 620.

From—The HON'BLE MR. W. F. RICE, C.S.I., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to report the discovery of an attempt by members of the seditionist party from Siam to corrupt the men of the Reserve Battalion of the Burma Military Police at Pyawbwè in Upper Burma. I am to enclose, for the information

of the Government of India, a copy of a letter* from the Inspector-General of Police, who personally investigated the matter at Pyawbwè; and I am to enclose also copies of statements made by Havildar Kirpa Ram, Lance Naick Pertab Singh, and Bugler Puran Singh, all of the Reserve Battalion. The full extent of the conspiracy has not yet been ascertained. The matter is being thoroughly investigated, and a further report will be submitted to the Government of India in due course.

*No. 702-C., dated the 1st December 1915.

Telegram P., no. 25-W.F., dated Rangoon, the 15th January 1916.

Pro. no. 621.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

The investigation into the conspiracy which was engineered in Siam and which resulted in emissaries being sent to tamper with the Military Police at Pyawbway and the Mountain Battery at Maymyo has been concluded and the case will now be ready within a fortnight for trial. Fifteen accused are in custody. A greater salutary effect will be produced if the conviction of these men is not unduly delayed. His Honour has consulted the law officer as well as the Criminal Investigation Department and considers it desirable that Commissioners should be appointed under section 4, Defence of India Act, 1915, to try the case. His Honour also proposes, with the concurrence of the Chief Judge, to appoint Mr. Justice Robinson and Mr. Justice Maung Kim Sha Kiang of the Chief Court to

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

Nos. 622—624.]

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

be Commissioners and the third officer will probably be Mr. McColl, the additional Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. His Honour recommends that sections 3 to 11 of the Defence of India Act should be brought into operation throughout Burma at once. Please inform me by telegram when a notification to that effect will be issued and the date of it. Among the accused there are the following six Indians, viz., Jewa Singh, Amar Singh, Bassawa Singh, Chalia Ram, who were deported by the Siamese Government to Singapore, and Narinjan Singh and Pala Singh, who were delivered by authorities in Siam to the officers in Burma. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that as these six persons were captured without formal extradition proceedings it is probably desirable that the Siamese Government should be informed of the intention to place them on their trial and ascertain that that Government have no objection to this action. His Honour suggests that the British Minister at Bangkok should be addressed accordingly if the Government of India see no objection.

Pro. no. 622.

Telegram P., no. 127, dated the 20th January 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,
To—His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok.

Conspiracy engineered in Siam. The investigation is finished and the case is ready for trial. There are six Indians amongst the accused, viz., Jewa Singh, Amar Singh, Bassawa Singh, and Chalia Ram, who were deported by the Siamese Government to Singapore, and Narinjan Singh and Pala Singh, who were delivered by authorities in Siam to the officers in Burma. Although no formal extradition proceedings were taken in regard to these persons we presume that there is no objection to taking action against them at once. It might possibly embarrass the Siamese Government if we consulted them about the matter. It would also raise question of extradition which had best be avoided.

Pro. no. 623.

Telegram P., no. 128, dated the 20th January 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

Please refer to your telegram no. 25-W.F., dated the 15th January 1916. The British Minister, Bangkok, has been informed of the action which it is contemplated to take but it is not considered desirable to consult the Siamese Government which might needlessly raise difficulties about extradition. As regards the extension of sections 3 to 11 of the Defence of India Act to Burma, the Government of India consider that such action would be calculated to give a false impression of the state of the province and it is unnecessary. In the Balasore and Benares precedents the sections of the Act were extended to the district only. The Government of India would accordingly be glad if the recommendations were curtailed by the Government of Burma.

Pro. no. 624.

Telegram P., no. 31-W., dated the 18th January 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please refer to the Burma Government's telegram no. 67-C.W., dated the 1st January 1916. His Honour would be glad if following persons who were arrested in Siam and deported to India could be sent to Rangoon for trial in the Pyawbway conspiracy case, viz., Chalia Ram, son Shankar Das, and Bassawa Singh, son Chanda

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(Nos. 625—628.)

Singh. It is also proposed to place Amar Singh, father's name Warriam Singh, now in custody in Singapore, on his trial in the same case. If there is no objection to Amar Singh being tried His Honour would be glad if Straits Settlements Government could be asked to send him to Rangoon. Finally, if British Minister, Bangkok, may be asked to move Siamese Government to deport the following four men who are now at Penang, and if they could be sent to Burma in custody they would be included amongst the persons to be tried, provided there is no objection to this arrangement, viz., Ralla Singh, Bur Singh, Gayan Singh, and Bhadwhan Singh.

Telegram P., dated the 21st January 1916.

Pro. no. 625.

From—His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok,

To—The Director, Criminal Intelligence, Delhi.

Reference your telegram no. 127.

In case of seditious Indians, Siamese Government have always avoided extradition. Minister for Foreign Affairs has always spoken of their deportation as undesirable.

Narinjan and Palla were sent back by Siamese High Commissioner across frontier I gather from His Majesty's Consul, Chiangmai, despatch 46 (confidential), January 1st, because they had no passport and were reported suspicious and seditious and were consequently undesirable. (Copy of this despatch he sent you under flying seal of Burma.)

We may assume therefore that Siamese Government deported them as such and put them because of their propinquity at moment across border quietly instead of bringing them here.

Confidential. I cannot think Siamese Government likely to take in any Indians whom they have deported as undesirable any further interest and I do not propose to consult them.

Telegram no. 167, dated Delhi, the 26th January 1916.

Pro. no. 626, †

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Calcutta.

Burma Government desire that Chalia Ram, son of Shankar Das, and Bassawa Singh, son of Chanda Singh, who were sent to Calcutta by Straits Settlements Government on board S. S. "Japan" may be sent in custody to Rangoon. Please comply in direct communication with Burma Government.

Telegram no. 168, dated Delhi, the 27th January 1916.

Pro. no. 627.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

Government of Burma desire that Amar Singh, son of Warriam Singh, now in custody in Singapore, be sent in custody Rangoon. If no objection please comply in direct communication with Burma.

Telegram P., no. 172, dated Delhi, the 27th January 1916.

Pro. no. 628.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma, Rangoon.

Please refer to your telegram no. 31-W., dated the 18th January 1916. The two persons Chalia Ram and Bassawa Singh are now in Calcutta and the Government

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of Bengal have been asked to send them in custody to Rangoon. The Government of Singapore have also been requested to do same with Amar Singh. Both these Governments have been asked to address you direct in the matter. The statement regarding the remaining four men who are said to be at Penang is not understood, for if they are at Penang then they must be in British custody. Do you mean that they are at Bangkok? Bhadrwan Singh's name is also not traceable here. If it is desired that the British Minister at Bangkok should be addressed it is desirable that further particulars about these men should be furnished to the Government of India. With reference to my telegram no. 128, dated 20th instant, the British Minister at Bangkok fully accepts the view expressed by the Government of India and says that the Siamese Government is unlikely to take any further interest in the undesirables who have been deported from Siam.

Pro. no. 629.

Telegram P., no. 36-W., dated the 22nd January 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please refer to my telegram no. 31-W., dated the 18th instant, on the subject of the Pyawbway conspiracy case. Ishan Das, alias Harnam Singh, of Sahri, is one of the most important accused, mentioned on page 72 of the *Ghadr* directory, and is in custody here. If the documents and other articles which were found in his house at Vancouver could be produced at the trial, together with evidence to prove them, the case against him would be much strengthened. It is believed that the documents are in the possession of the Criminal Investigation Department in India, but the attendance of the witness who conducted the searches at Vancouver will be necessary. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor after consulting Mr. Petrie strongly recommends that the Government of India should move the Canadian Government to send this witness.

Pro. no. 630.

Telegram P., no. 89, dated the 25th January 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

Please refer to your telegram no. 128, dated the 20th January 1916, on the subject of the proposed extension of certain sections of the Defence of India Act to Burma. The Commissioners who will be appointed will sit at Mandalay. The Government Advocate thinks that it would probably be sufficient to extend the sections in question to the Mandalay district only, but he fears that this may encourage the raising of the question of jurisdiction especially as regards the issue of process by the President at Rangoon before the beginning of the trial. This procedure is desirable to save time and expense. The Government Advocate therefore advises the extension of the sections to Rangoon Town also. He further desires that Amherst and Yamethin districts should be included as important operations of the conspirators took place in those districts. The Government Advocate thinks that it will be safer to include these districts in spite of section 182, Criminal Procedure Code. Sections 3 to 11 of the Act should therefore, in the opinion of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, be extended to the four districts, namely, Rangoon Town, Amherst, Yamethin, and Mandalay of the Province of Burma.

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[Nos. 631—634.]

No. 187, dated Delhi, the 28th January 1916.

Pro. no. 631.

Notification by the Government of India, Home Department.

In exercise of the power conferred by section 1, sub-section (3) of the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act of 1915 (IV of 1915), the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that sections 3 to 11 of the said Act shall come into force, with effect from the date of this notification, in the following four districts of the Province of Burma, namely, Rangoon Town, Amherst, Yaméthin, and Mandalay.

Telegram no. 196, dated Delhi, the 29th January 1916.

Pro. no. 632.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

Your telegram 89, dated the 25th instant. Notification extending sections 3 to 11, Defence of India Act, to districts named therein issued in Gazette of 29th instant.

No. 423, dated Delhi, the 2nd February 1916.

Pro. no. 633.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

In forwarding, herewith, a copy of the Government of India notification* extending sections 3—11 of the Defence of India Act, 1915 (IV of 1915), to certain districts of the Province of Burma, I am directed to observe that the Act contains no clause excluding European British subjects or their children from the jurisdiction of the Commissioners who may be appointed under section 4 of the Act. Theoretically, in view of section 46† of the Government of India Act, 1833, this should have been done, but it was deemed inexpedient to emphasise the distinction involved. I am accordingly to request that definite confidential instructions be issued to secure that no British subject born in Europe or the children of such subject shall be tried for any offence by a Special Tribunal appointed under the Act, as otherwise the defence might be tempted to raise the question of the validity of the Act on the ground that it has created a Court with powers in excess of the limitations of the Statute of 1833.

*No. 187, dated the 28th January 1916.

†Now reproduced in Section 65 (3) of the Government of India Act of 1915.

No. 424, dated Delhi, the 2nd February 1916.

Pro. no. 634.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—SIR T. W. HOLDERNESSE, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., His Majesty's Under Secretary of State for India.

I am directed to forward, for the information of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, a copy of a notification† issued by the Government of India extending to certain districts in the Province of Burma sections 3—11 of the Defence of India Act, 1915 (IV of 1915).

†No. 187, dated the 28th January 1916.

2. This action has been taken to facilitate the speedy trial of a conspiracy case which has been instituted against certain persons who have endeavoured to tamper with the loyalty of the Indian troops and Military Police in that Province.

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Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

Nos. 635—639.]

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

Pro. no. 635.

Telegram P., no. 45-W., dated the 29th January 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

With reference to your telegram no. 172, dated the 27th instant, the four persons mentioned in my telegram no. 31-W., dated the 18th January 1916, were said to be at Raheng in Siam, not at Penang. Their names are Gayan Singh, Bhadur Singh and Bur Singh, three cousins who formerly lived at Mesort and are well known to the Consul at Chiangmai. The fourth is Kingoa Singh of Raheng and Chiangmai. Another man who is also wanted is Mul Chand, *alias* Mustapha Hussain, well known in Chiangmai, but who is now said to be at Bangkok. All these men can be identified by a shopkeeper at Raheng named Ismail.

Pro. no. 636.

Telegram P., dated the 30th January 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

My telegram no. 45-W., dated the 29th January 1916. Another Indian named Maharaj Kishan who was arrested by the Siamese Government and deported to Singapore is required at Rangoon as a witness in the conspiracy case. He is now in Singapore in custody and His Honour would be glad if the Straits Settlements Government could be asked to send him to Rangoon for the purpose of giving evidence in the conspiracy case.

Pro. no. 637.

No. 1537-P., dated Calcutta, the 28th January 1916.

From—A. MARR, Esq., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your telegram no. 167-Political, dated the 26th January 1916, and to report for the information of the Government of India that the Governor in Council has issued orders under the Ingress into India Ordinance V of 1914 directing the removal under escort of Chaliaram and Basawa Singh to Rangoon and their delivery on arrival to the Commissioner of Police there. The Government of Burma is being informed accordingly.

Pro. no. 638.

Telegram P., no. 450, dated the 4th February 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

Please refer to my telegram no. 168, dated the 27th January 1916. The Government of Burma now ask that another Indian named Maharaj Kishan who is now in custody in Singapore should be sent for purpose of giving evidence in conspiracy case to Rangoon. Please arrange in direct communication with the Government of Burma if there is no objection.

Pro. no. 639.

Telegram P., no. 455, dated the 5th February 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Bangkok.

Your telegram, dated 21st ultimo. The Government of India would be glad if Siamese Government were moved to deport as undesirable to Burma in direct

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The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

[Nos. 639-644.]

communication with local Government the following individuals who are wanted in connection with the conspiracy case which has been instituted in Rangoon. The names of these persons are Gayan Singh, Bhadur Singh and Bur Singh, three cousins who formerly lived at Mesort and are well known to the Consul at Chiengmai. The fourth is Kingoa Singh of Raheng and Chiengmai. These four are said to be at Raheng. The fifth is Mul Chand, *alias* Mustapha Husain, well known in Chiengmai but who is now said to be at Bangkok. Shopkeeper at Raheng named Ismail can identify all these people.

Telegram P., no. 52-W., dated the 2nd February 1916.

Pro. no. 640.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor would be glad if orders could be issued directing that Chet Ram who was deported in the SS. "Japan" and who is now interned in India be sent in custody and delivered to the Commissioner of Police, Rangoon. He is required either as a witness or as an accused in the Pyawbway conspiracy case.

No. 209-X., dated Calcutta, the 5th February 1916.

Pro. no. 641.

From—A. MARR, Esq., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, Delhi.

In continuation of my letter no. 1537-P., dated the 28th January 1916, I am directed to report for the information of the Government of India that Chalia Ram and Basawa Singh were sent under escort to Rangoon on the 2nd February 1916 by the SS. "Dunera."

Telegram P., dated the 7th February 1916.

Pro. no. 642.

From—His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Bangkok,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please repeat the name of the fourth Indian referred to in your telegram no. 455. It is not likely that Kingoa Singh is correct.

Telegram no. 474, dated Delhi, the 8th February 1916.

Pro. no. 643.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Bangkok.

Your telegram, 7th, name is Ralla Singh, not Kingoa Singh. If necessary please consult Burma direct.

Telegram no. 475, dated Delhi, the 8th February 1916.

Pro. no. 644.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Burma Government request that Chet Ram *ex* SS. "Japan" may be sent in custody and delivered to Commissioner of Police, Rangoon. With permission Governor in Council please comply direct communication with Burma Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

Nos. 645—649.]

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

Pro. no. 645.

Telegram P., dated the 7th February 1916.

From—The Colonial Secretary, Singapore,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

The person referred to in your secret telegram no. 450, dated the 4th February 1916, is not here, but in Bangkok, so it is believed.

Pro. no. 646.

Telegram P., no. 504, dated the 10th February 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok.

Home Department telegram 474, dated 8th February 1916. The Government of Burma ask that another Indian by the name of Maharaj Kishan who is believed to be at present in Bangkok should be deported and sent to Burma, together with the Indians who were named in the Home Department telegram no. 455 of 5th February 1916. The Government of India trust that this can be arranged by you in direct communication with the Government of Burma.

Pro. no. 647.

Telegram dated the 12th February 1916.

From—His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign and Political Department.

Please refer to your telegram 504, dated the 10th February 1916. Maharaj Kishan is still in gaol here. I had already asked the Siamese authorities to have him sent to Burma over the frontier with the other five men who are not yet found. It will be difficult to trace some of these men.

Pro. no. 648.

Telegram P., no. 638, dated the 15th February 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

Please refer to your telegrams, dated the 29th and 30th ultimo. His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok, telegraphs as follows on the 12th instant. *Begins.* Maharaj Kishan these men. *Ends.*

Pro. no. 649.

Telegram P., no. 208, dated the 14th February 1916.

From—The Viceroy (Home Department),

To—The Secretary of State for India.

Will you please refer to your secret telegram of the 6th of October 1914 to the Viceroy regarding the Victoria bomb plot. The Government of Burma have now under arrest Harnam Singh who was really the prime mover in the affair. This was fully established at the time by search of Harnam Singh's house and premises of which full details are given in letter of 17th September 1914 from Hopkinson to Ministry of Interior. The Burma Government will shortly try Harnam Singh and others for waging war against the King and consider that case against him would be materially strengthened if they could produce in court evidence

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

[Nos. 649—652.]

obtained in Victoria proving Harnam Singh's connection with *Ghadr* party in America. This would involve sending to India an officer who conducted the search with all incriminating articles found, and official search list. The paper marked C alluded to in Hopkinson's letter and all correspondence seized are now with the Indian Criminal Intelligence Department, and it is essential that the officer sent should be in a position to identify these. If the officer who conducted the search cannot identify Harnam Singh other witness or witnesses will be needed to prove that Harnam Singh is same man of that name whose premises were searched in Victoria. We agree with Burma in thinking that the production of this evidence is important and request that you will move the Canadian Government to send it if available. The witnesses should reach Rangoon by the middle of March or as soon after as possible, intimation being sent us of their departure. We shall be glad to receive early information as to whether Canada can send this evidence.

No. 413-X., dated Calcutta, the 18th February 1916.

Pro. no. 650.

From—A. MARR, Esq., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, Delhi.

In continuation of my letter no. 230-X., dated the 8th February 1916, and with reference to your telegram no. 475 of the same date, I am directed to report for the information of the Government of India that Ladha Singh and Chet Ram were sent under escort to Rangoon on the 16th February 1916 by the SS. "Bangala."

Telegram P., no. 86-W., dated the 23rd February 1916.

Pro. no. 651.

From—The Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Pyawbway conspiracy case. My telegram no. 36-W., dated 22nd ultimo. Could Government of India kindly inform us as soon as possible whether the evidence referred to is likely to arrive from Vancouver and when it will be received? The conspiracy trial will begin on the 6th of March and the prosecution will probably close about the end of the month. If by that time it is known that evidence is on its way it might be possible to procure an adjournment while the defence witnesses are being summoned. Unless the evidence arrives by the third week of April it is not likely to be of any use. His Honour, therefore, hopes that it will be possible to have the matter expedited and information obtained at an early date as to whether and when the evidence is likely to arrive.

Telegram P., no. 266, dated the 29th February 1916.

Pro. no. 652.

From—The Viceroy (Home Department),

To—The Secretary of State for India.

Burma conspiracy case. Continuation of my telegram, dated the 14th instant. Trial begins on 6th March and prosecution is expected to close at the end of that month. The Canadian evidence is not likely to be useful unless available by the third week in April at the latest. It is requested by the local Government that early intimation of intention may be given.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

Nos. 653—657.]

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

Pro. no. 653.

Telegram P., no. 97-W., dated the 26th February 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Pyawbway conspiracy case. Reference correspondence ending my telegram no. 86-W., dated the 23rd February last. Following two persons are required for trial. They were deported from Singapore last December. First, Budha Singh, son of Sham Singh Arora, of Philloke Killah, Daidar Singh Police Thana, Gujranwala District, Punjab. Secondly, Indar Singh, son of Indar Singh Brahmin, of the same village. His Honour would be glad if these two men could be sent under escort to Rangoon and delivered to the Commissioner of Police. The matter is urgent as the trial is fixed to begin on the 6th of March.

Pro. no. 654.

No. 850, dated Delhi, the 1st March 1916.

From—The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Commissioner of Delhi.

In continuation of the Home Department endorsement no. 658, dated the 18th February 1916, I am directed to forward for your information a copy of a telegram received from the Government of Burma, no. 97-W., dated 26th February 1916, and to request that the two persons named in the telegram may be sent at once to Rangoon in custody and delivered to the Commissioner of Police. I am also to request that the date on which these men are despatched and the probable date of their arrival at Rangoon may be intimated as soon as possible to the Government of Burma.

Pro. no. 655.

Telegram P., dated London, the 2nd March 1916.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Viceroy (Home Department).

[Please refer to your telegram of the 29th ultimo.] Trial of Harnam Singh, Burma Government. Canada duly informed without delay; they are anxious to help but doubt whether any one but the late Mr. Hopkinson is in a position to be useful. I am pressing matter and will telegraph result as soon as I can.

Pro. no. 656.

Telegram P., no. 876, dated the 4th March 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

(a) Part within [] State telegraphs as follows. (a) *Begins.* * * * * * *Ends.*
brackets omitted.

Pro. no. 657.

Telegram P., dated London, the 7th March 1916.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Viceroy (Home Department),

Following is secret. Trial of Harnam Singh, Burma. The Governor-General of Canada has telegraphed to-day as follows. *Begins.* It is not possible to obtain a witness to identify Harnam Singh as visitor of house where outfit was found. Detective Ezra Carlow arrested Dalip and Gurdit carrying a bomb. Sworn statement, also judge's notes at trial, can be secured. There is no substantial evidence

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

[Nos. 659—660.]

to connect Harnam Singh with *Ghadr*. Taraknath Das is now in Berlin. Gurdit would like to go to India but does not know Harnam Singh. Dalip declined to talk. If required Detective Carlow would be ready to go to India. *Ends*. I shall be glad to have your views by telegraph.

Telegram no. 914, dated Delhi, the 8th March 1916.

Pro. no. 658.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

In continuation of the Home Department telegram no. 876, dated 4th instant. His Majesty's Secretary of State telegraphs as follows. *Begins*. Following is secret
* * * * * views by telegraph. *Ends*. Views of Lieutenant-Governor should be telegraphed urgently.

Telegram P., nos. 313-314, dated the 11th March 1916.

Pro. no. 659.

From—The Viceroy (Home Department),

To—The Governor-General of Canada.

(Repeated to the Secretary of State for India.)

Please refer to the recent telegraphic correspondence on the subject of sending a witness to Burma in the case of Harnam Singh. Hopkinson's letter of 17th September 1914 to Ministry of Interior clearly states that he took with him two city detectives to search Harnam Singh's store and house. Either of these would be competent witness. It is further stated in the same letter that one Baboo actually pointed out Harnam Singh's store and that latter's correspondence which we particularly wish to produce in evidence against him was found in the possession of Baboo's wife, a white woman to whom it was made over by Harnam Singh himself. This woman should be an excellent witness if disposed to give evidence. What we need from you is evidence that will prove that the correspondence in our hands is really Harnam Singh's. Internal evidence of correspondence itself fully connects him with *Ghadr*. Would you kindly let me know early by telegraph whether detective or Baboo's wife or both are available. You might also consider the possibility of using Baboo himself.

The above message has been addressed to Canada and repeated to Secretary of State with reference to correspondence ending with his telegram dated 7th March 1916.

Telegram P., dated the 10th March 1916.

Pro. no. 660.

From—His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please refer to your telegram no. 455, dated the 5th February 1916. Maharaj Kishan has been sent across the frontier. Including Bhadur Singh and Bur Singh and Ralla Singh, who are wanted by the Government of Burma to give evidence, seven Indians have been deported to-day to Singapore. The Government of Singapore has been informed.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARCH 1916.

Sedition in the Burma Military Police.

No. 661—665.]

The Pyawbway Conspiracy Case.

Pro. no. 661.

Telegram no. 968, dated Delhi, the 11th March 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

Following telegram received from His Britannic Majesty's Minister, Bangkok, repeated for His Honour's information. *Begins.* Maharaj Kishan *
* * * * * informed. *Ends.*

Pro. no. 662.

Telegram P., no. 145-W., dated the 14th March 1916.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please refer to your telegram no. 914, dated the 8th March 1916. Little value would be attached to the evidence available in Canada. Recently we have obtained evidence locally which strengthens the case against Harnam Singh so that we can dispense with the witness from Canada. His Honour therefore thinks that the proposal of getting evidence from that country may be dropped. The thanks of the Government of Burma may, His Honour hopes, be conveyed to the Governor-General of Canada.

Pro. no. 663.

Telegram P., dated the 15th March 1916.

From—His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada,

To—The Viceroy (Home Department).

Please see your telegram of the 12th March. My Government states as follows. Detective Carlow will be sent to India. The other detective mentioned by Hopkinson is dead. It is reported that Babu Singh and his white wife are in the United States and we are endeavouring to locate them. We cannot compel either of them to go to India or make any statement but if they go voluntarily we will send them.

Pro. no. 664.

Telegram nos. 331-332, dated the 16th March 1916.

From—The Viceroy (Home Department),

To—The Governor-General of Canada.

(Repeated to the Secretary of State for India.)

Please refer to your telegram of the 15th instant. The Government of India are greatly obliged for Your Excellency's readiness to assist and proposal to send Detective Carlow to India. Local evidence since obtained strengthens case against Harnam Singh and evidence from Canada can therefore now be dispensed with. Carlow and other witnesses need not now be sent. Addressed Governor-General, Canada, and repeated to Secretary of State for India.

Pro. no. 665.

Telegram P., no. 1034, dated the 21st March 1916.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

The Governor-General of Canada has been thanked for his readiness to assist and he has been informed that the proposal to obtain evidence from Canada against Harnam Singh has been dropped. This is with reference to your telegram no. 145-W., dated the 14th March 1916.

Exd. by—E.A.

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26NA

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
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Title of Document :- Poll. March. 1916 no. 619-65

Sr. No. (i. e. Sr. No. in the Issue Registers)	Borrower's name (Case for which required)	Date of issue	Due date of return	Remarks
23716 102	N. G. Barring	27-11-65	27-12-65	11-12-65
166 6502	Dr. Jain	17.4.65	17.5.65	23.4.65
1988 65	A. Verma	23.8.65	23.9.65	12.11.65
2458 63	P. C. Jain	10.12.85	10.1.66	16.12.65
4 6712	P. C. Jain	3.1.66	3.2.66	6.1.66
163	T. R. Sareen	10/1/67	10/2/67	27.1.67
488 5A	Chaurkax Rao	9.5.67	7.6.67	18.5.67
308	Kanjilal	9-11-67	9.6.68	5/3/68
2113	SN Chakraborty	30.1.71	30.2.71	
7 2244/73	SN Chakraborty	17.5.7	17.6.71	
7 4259/73	A. P. Shastri	27/3/73		
7 5064/73	S. B. Singh	24/4/73	24/5/73	8.2.75
6 649	A. P. Shastri	31/5/73	31/6/73	
164 74	H. K. Puri	13/3/74		
274	T. R. Sareen	27/3/74		8.5.74
	T. R. Sareen	1/8/74		20