SIMLA RECORDS.

(17)

# 1888

# FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

## FRONTIER A.

Pros. July 1888, Nos. 34–49.

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**Complaints by the Amir of Afghanistan regarding the treatment given to Ayub Khan in India. Diaries of the Political Agent with Ayub Khan for the weeks ending the 20th and 27th May 1888.**

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

REFERENCES TO FORMER CASES.
Secret F, March 1888, Nos. 124-275.
Frontier A, June „ „ 180-236.

GOVT. OF INDIA. } 1888 { FOREIGN DEPT.

# FRONTIER A.

JULY.

## Nos. 34—49.

*Complaints by the Amir of Afghanistan regarding the treatment given to Ayub Khan in India. Diaries of the Political Agent with Ayub Khan for the weeks ending the 20th and 27th May 1888.*

Vide Rf. Bk. {

REFERENCES TO LATER CASES.

Sec. F. Aug/33- 2.50/1
S.F. Oct/89- 418/36.

Vide Rf. Bk. {

KEEP-WITHS PRINTED.
(1) Notes on the case.
(2) Demi-official correspondence.

KEEP-WITHS NOT PRINTED.
Original draft letter to Genl. Amir Ahmad Khan.

LIST OF PAPERS.


No. 34.—From Amir's Agent with the Govt. of India of 9th May 1888—Enquires if it is true that Ayub Khan has recently arrived at Karachi, and what place has been fixed for his residence.

No. 35.—To Amir's Agent with the Govt. of India, No. 84-P.O. of 15th May 1888—Replies to the foregoing letter, and gives the information asked for.

No. 36.—From Amir's Agent with the Govt. of India of 18th May 1888—Asks for a list of Ayub Khan's followers.

No. 37.—From Genl. Amir Ahmad Khan of 21st May 1888—Conveys a warning against Ayub Khan and points to the possibility of his attempting to escape.

No. 38.—To Genl. Amir Ahmad Khan, No. 87-P.O. of 23rd May 1888—Forwards a list of Ayub Khan's followers.

No. 39.—From Poltl. Agent with Ayub Khan, No. 30 of 23rd May 1888—Forwards his diary for the week ending 20th May.

No. 40.—Enclosure.

No. 41.—From Amir's Agent with the Govt. of India of 26th May 1888—Refers to his previous letters, and sends a letter from Sardar Muhammad Sadik Khan to Sardar Wali Muhammad Khan, which he regards as confirming his previous statements regarding Ayub Khan.

No. 42.—Enclosure.

No. 43.—From Poltl. Agent with Ayub Khan, No. 53 of 1st June 1888—Forwards his diary for week ending 27th May.

No. 44.—Enclosure.


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No. 45.—From Amir's Agent to Native Attaché, Foreign Office, received 8th June 1888—Forwards the original of a letter from the Amir of Afghanistan regarding Ayub Khan, for comparison with the copy.

No. 46.—From Amir's Agent to Native Attaché, Foreign Office, received 8th June 1888—Forwards copy of the letter referred to in the foregoing.

Nos. 47-48.—Enclosures.

No. 49.—To Amir's Agent with the Govt. of India, No. 115-P.O. of 28th June 1888—Replies to his letters submitting the Amir's complaints of Ayub Khan's treatment in India.



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# K. W.

## FRONTIER A, JULY 1888.

Nos. 34–49.

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**Complaints by the Amir of Afghanistan regarding the treatment given to Ayub Khan in India. Diaries of the Political Agent, with Ayub Khan for the weeks ending the 20th and 27th May 1888.**

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### K. W. No. 1.

FROM GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN, DATED THE 9TH MAY 1888.

*Enquires if it is true that Sardar Ayub Khan has really arrived at Karachi, and what place has been fixed for his residence.*

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I put up a draft reply to the Agent.

E. H. S. C.—*9th May 1888.*

See also the last communication made to the Amir, or to General Amir Ahmad Khan for the Amir's information. I'm not sure we did not promise more information.

*10th May 1888.* W. J. C.

[To General Amir Ahmad Khan, No. 84-P. O., dated the 15th May 1888.]

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FROM GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN, DATED THE 18TH MAY 1888.

*Asks for a list of the Afghan refugees who have arrived in India, for information of the Amir. Begs that the list may show to what class the men belong, whether officers or not.*

---

Ayub Khan promised to send a complete list when he reached Rawal Pindi. There would be no use in refusing to give a list of these people, because General Amir Ahmad could easily get one on the spot. Instead of waiting for Ayub's promised list, I would venture to suggest that we send General Amir Ahmad a copy of the one* the Sardar sent us through General MacLean, omitting the amounts against each. It might be said that the list was not quite accurate, and the line might be drawn at persons shown as to get ₹15 and over per mensem, a remark being added that the remainder were persons of no consideration or importance.

* Frontier A, June 1888, Nos. 180-236.

The General cannot expect us to do more in the way of classifying them.

E. H. S. C.—*18th May 1888.*

*19th May 1888.* W. J. C.

*19th May 1888.* H. M. D.

[To General Amir Ahmad Khan, No. 87-P. O., dated the 23rd May 1888.]

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FROM GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN, DATED THE 21ST MAY 1888.

*Conveys a warning regarding Sardar Ayub Khan and his followers, and points to the probability of his attempting to escape.*

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This is a warning against Ayub Khan, and the probability of his attempting to escape.

I propose to re-submit it for orders, after you have approved the letter to the General, sending him the list of followers with Ayub.

E. H. S. C.—*22nd May 1888.*

Send. Then reply briefly pointing out that Ayub has very substantial reasons for not running away again, and correcting any mistakes of fact. Say it cannot be supposed that he is not less dangerous to the peace of Afghanistan when in our hands than when practically free te raise disturbances in Persia. We have spent much money to get him over, and do not understand the General regarding the matter as he does.

*23rd May 1888.* H. M. D.

UNDER-SECRETARY.

Draft put up.

May a final paragraph be added as follows:—

"The Amir may rest assured that the Government of India will not allow Rawal Pindi to be a centre of intrigue against His Highness, and thus undo the good work which it has been put to so great an expense to achieve."

E. H. S. C.—*24th May 1888.*

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FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT WITH AYUB KHAN, NO. 30, DATED THE 23RD MAY 1888.

*Forwards a diary of political intelligence for the week ending the 20th May 1888.*

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On the 22nd instant Under-Secretary wrote demi-officially to Captain Gordon—

"You need not keep an Agency diary as Political Agents and Residents do for the display of official correspondence."

A weekly or fortnightly diary in this form might be approved? It may occasionally save a good deal of letter-writing on interesting but trifling matters.

A. CHAPMAN—*25th May 1888.*

E. H. S. C.—*25th May 1888.*

SECRETARY.

For perusal. The diary is interesting, and while things are settling down this form of report is not inconvenient. It will soon die a natural death, I hope, from dearth of material.

*26th May 1888.* W. J. C.

The Amir will get very jealous of these Darbars.

*28th May 1888.* H. M. D.

UNDER-SECRETARY.

To see. General Amir Ahmad has already written on this very subject. You have taken up the point in the draft reply.

E. H. S. C.—*28th May 1888.*

*29th May 1888.* W. J. C.

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FROM GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN, DATED THE 26TH MAY 1888.

*Refers to his previous letter of 21st May, and sends a letter from Sardar Muhammad Saddik Khan to Sardar Wali Muhammad, which he regards as confirming his previous representations regarding the danger of Ayub Khan residing so near the Afghan frontier.*

---

The draft answer to the Agent's previous letter will suffice to answer this one also.

I understand that the letter which the General now sends has been somehow intercepted. It bears every appearance of being what it purports to be a letter to Sardar Wali Muhammad from his son-in-law. It is well worth perusal. The writer says that at Pindi the Ayub party were treated to luxuries which they would never have paid for themselves. He says Hashim Khan was drunk when he visited him; and—though impressed by Ayub's gentlemanly bearing—he compares Hashim to a hog's tusk which even a coating of gold cannot make clean.

E. H. S. C.—*28th May 1888.*

UNDER-SECRETARY.

The draft letter below to General Amir Ahmad having been held over, in view of the later letter received from the Amir, I submit these papers to you at once, as His Highness's letter is before you.

E. H. S. C.—*11th June 1888.*

I returned it on Saturday evening.

*11th June 1888.* W. J. C.

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FROM THE POLITICAL AGENT WITH SARDAR AYUB KHAN, NO. 53, DATED THE 1ST JUNE 1888.

*Forwards his diary for week ending 27th May. Hashim Khan anxious to visit Foreign Secretary, and to get his brother's allowances settled. Ayub's visitors from Afghanistan. The Political Agent's advice, and its acceptance by Ayub. Sardar Jalal-ud-Din foresees trouble from Ayub receiving Afghan visitors. The difficulty about the expression, &c., &c., in the agreement. Ayub's fears lest he should be removed from Rawal Pindi.*

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Submitted.

E. H. S. C.—*4th June 1888.*

Secretary for information.

Captain Evans-Gordon had an important conversation with Ayub about his behaviour and the behaviour of his people in regard to the blandishments afforded by Afghans why would try to set him up against Abdur Rahman.

Ayub has so far behaved frankly and well. It would have been still better if the warning which he gave his people in Darbar not to speak or write evil against the Government had been not to speak or write evil against the Amir of Afghanistan.

The list of visitors from Afghanistan to Ayub is rather formidable. It will be surprising if they do not induce him to intrigue against the Amir, and it is not to be expected that the Amir will believe otherwise than that active intrigue is on foot.

*6th June 1888.* W. J. C.

HIS EXCELLENCY.

For information. The Amir will certainly resent these visits of Afghans to Ayub, but probably he will take means to stop any large number of visitors going from Afghanistan. It is remarkable how completely Ayub seems to have taken Yakub's place.

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I think he should be told that he must discourage all attempts to visit him except on the part of private friends in India as the Amir will naturally suspect intrigue and take umbrage. We might mention that the Amir's Agent has already addressed us on the subject.

*7th June 1888.* H. M. D.

*9th June 1888.* D.

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FROM GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN, RECEIVED 8TH JUNE 1888.

*Forwards a letter from His Highness the Amir to the Afghan Agent, complaining about Sardar Ayub Khan's residence at Rawal Pindi, &c.*

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UNDER-SECRETARY.

I submit this at once before drafting the instructions to Captain Evans-Gordon.

Secretary has the file in which General Amir Ahmad has made similar complaints previously. The General evidently attaches great importance to this communication, which is written by the Amir's own hand.

E. H. S. C.—*9th June 1888.*

*Order by Secretary on draft to GENERAL AMIR AHMAD.*

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KAZI SAHIB—

Please give me a brief letter for Amir Ahmad—a line or two—saying I was answering his letter after enquiry, but that as a letter on the subject has come from the Amir, I will answer after speaking to the Viceroy.

*9th June 1888.* H. M. D.

Note sent to Secretary for signature.

*9th June 1888.* K. M. A.

SECRETARY.

There was a later letter from Captain Evans-Gordon saying Ayub had sent orders to the Afghans, who had congregated in Rawal Pindi to do him honour, telling them to return home and to do so before he went down for the Id at the end of the present month of Ramzan, so that they might not be there when he was there. This letter from the Amir shows that he is seriously perturbed at the reception given to Ayub. I think it may be answered rather stiffly, letting him know that we treat our guests well, because it is fitting to do so, and denying his right to question what the Government of India does. At the same time he can be reminded that our friendship and good-will towards him has not one whit abated, and that he has nothing to complain of in our treatment of him as to Ayub holding "Darbars;" he is not a prisoner that he should not receive his friends, but we will see that he keeps no semblance of state nor is made a focus of intrigue. In writing to Captain Evans-Gordon in the sense of the orders already passed, we may send him copy of this correspondence. He is alive to the importance of discouraging visits to Ayub, and anything giving rise to the appearance of intrigue, but these letters will show him how necessary it is to be more than ever on his guard.

I do not know what the General has been writing to the Amir about the other refugees. He has had no warrant for telling the Amir that we meant to suggest anything so impossible as the reconcilement of all refugees except Yakub, Ayub, and Hashim.

As to news-paper reports, we can tell the General that we pay little attention to them and he need never think they express the views of the Government or of any one in authority.

*9th June 1888.* W. J. C.

HIS EXCELLENCY.

The Amir writes asking what is meant by our treatment of Ayub Khan, and he demurs to receiving back all the refugees except Yakub, Ayub, and Hashim, which we did not ask him to do.

I have had little chance of late of talking to Amir Ahmad, who has not come to see me for some time,* but I will take an opportunity of getting hold of him. Unfortunately I am afraid it pays him better to make mischief than to counteract it.

H. M. D.

* He is coming on Monday.

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I think we may tell the Amir that Ayub Khan and Hashim have been brought over to India, at great expense to us, solely in the interests of peace and order in Afghanistan; that they were not obliged to leave Persia unless they pleased, and that when they agreed to come they naturally expected and stipulated that they should be treated not as prisoners but as guests; that we cannot therefore prevent their seeing their friends in this country; but that we have warned them against any intrigues with disaffected persons in Afghanistan, and that we shall insist upon their paying attention to this warning.

I would add that it never occurred to us as possible that the Amir would feel any anxiety about them. In Persia they were always a menace to the tranquillity of his dominions. In India their power to harm him is at an end, and before long he will see how much we have done to strengthen his hands.

*15th June 1888.* H. M. D.

I will speak to Mr. Durand about this when I see him on Tuesday. It was to be expected that, however, pleased the Amir may have been when he first heard of our intention to get Ayub Khan into India, and thus deliver him from the fear of further attempts at invasion, he should now become a little jealous on receiving these exaggerated accounts of the good treatment which his most formidable rival is receiving. We are bound, I think, to make allowance for his susceptibilities, and I would carefully explain to him in very courteous language that from first to last our one idea has been to prevent Ayub from doing him any further mischief, and that we shall certainly take care that this object is attained. I am not sure, but it would be well that I myself should see the Afghan Envoy in Mr. Durand's presence.

*16th June 1888.* D.

[Letter to General Amir Ahmad Khan, No. 115-P.O., dated the 28th June 1888.]
[Demi-official to Captain W. Evans-Gordon, dated the 29th June 1888.]

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EXTRACT DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM CAPTAIN EVANS-GORDON (TO SECRETARY), DATED THE 16TH JUNE 1888.

***Reports that Sardar Ayub Khan does not desire to do anything against the advice of Government or to intrigue against the Amir. Asks to see His Highness's complaints in this connection.***

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Copy of the Amir's complaint might be sent to Captain Evans-Gordon.

E. H. S. C.—*20th June 1888.*

*21st June 1888.* W. J. C.

*21st June 1888.* H. M. D.

UNDER-SECRETARY.

The file was not available before. This draft to Captain Evans-Gordon can issue as soon as the letter to General Amir Ahmad is got out after the interview with His Excellency to-day.

I put up a copy, as I believe you have not seen the letter to the Agent yet.

E. H. S. C.—*27th June 1888.*

Thanks. I had not.

W. J. C.

May be recorded.

Please see the Viceroy's order of 9th June. Secretary wrote in this sense to Captain Evans-Gordon in his demi-official, dated * the 9th June, an extract of which will be placed in this file before recording.

* In the linked file about Ayub visiting Simla, and the "&c., &c.," of the agreement.

A. C.—*2nd July 1888.*

I understand that Secretary's demi-official to Captain Gordon of 9th June was in pursuance of His Excellency's order, and nothing further seems necessary beyond placing an extract in this file.

E. H. S. C.— *2nd July 1888.*

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I have no doubt this is so. Put an extract in this file and record.

*3rd July 1888.* W. J. C.

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Recorded and indexed by A. Chapman.

Recording and indexing examined by E. H. S. Clarke—7th July 1888.

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## K. W. No. 2.

*Extract from a demi-official letter from* CAPTAIN W. EVANS-GORDON *to the Secretary, dated the 3rd June 1888.*

* * * * * * * *

Ayub is behaving very well, and is, as far as I can make out, perfectly open and straight. He told me yesterday about a large number of people who had come from Afghanistan to see him and were waiting in Pindi, giving me their names. And on my advice he wrote telling them that if they were his friends the kindest thing they could do would be to return at once to their homes. He could not help them or encourage them in any way.

He is going to Pindi for the Id, and will stay two days (paying his own tonga). I shall of course go with him. The conviction here is that he has ordered the Sipah Salar to get rid of the Afghan visitors *before* he goes down. I call all this very upright and straight of him. It is dead against his own inclination not to see all these people and make much of them; and his action in this, as I think important matter will greatly ease our hands and help us out of possible serious complications.

I never dreamt that I should be on such terms with him as I am.

I do not think there are many things he would not tell me, and after all he is the best source of information as to what is going on among his own people.

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*Extract from demi-official letter from* H. M. DURAND, ESQ., C.S.I., *to* CAPTAIN W. EVANS-GORDON, *dated the 9th June 1888.*

* * * * * * * *

Even now we have had three letters from the Amir and his Agent complaining of the doings of the refugee Sardars, and if Ayub holds Darbars of his adherents at Rawal Pindi this is not surprising. On this point you should speak to him. We do not wish to prevent him from seeing old friends and adherents of his family who may now be in India, but he should do so without unnecessary show, and should discourage all visits from Afghanistan, should in fact remember his promise not to intrigue against the Amir. If he were Amir in place of Abdur Rahman, he would not think well of us unless we refrained from countenancing proceedings which were likely to prove detrimental to his authority.

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*Extract from a demi-official letter from* CAPTAIN W. EVANS-GORDON *to the Secretary, dated the 16th June 1888.*

* * * * * * * *

I am satisfied that Ayub does not desire to do anything against the advice of Government, or to intrigue against the Amir. I have already told you how well he has behaved about the people coming from Afghanistan. He has recently sent a number of men back to their homes without seeing them though his inclination to do so was naturally very strong.

As to receiving his own people I will endeavour to make these visits as unostentatious as possible. It is to be remembered, however, that we brought Ayub here with some thousand followers and located him in a place already full of influential Afghans. It is not surprising that they should want to see him, or that he should wish to be civil to them and his own people.

I hope I may be allowed to see the Amir's complaints. Hitherto I do not believe any thing has been done at which His Highness has any cause to take exception.

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It seems to me that as meetings must take place between Ayub, his people, and the other refugees, it is better that such meetings should be as open and unrestricted as possible. Anything resembling suppression might encourage secret gatherings far more dangerous and difficult to deal with.

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DEMI-OFFICIAL.

Dated Simla, the 29th June 1888.

From—W. J. CUNINGHAM, Esq.,

To—CAPTAIN EVANS-GORDON.

In your letter of the 16th instant you asked to see the Amir's complaints and I send you copies of His Highness's letter to General Amir Ahmad, and of the reply to the General about Ayub's arrival in India and his doings at Pindi, &c.

Exd.—T. Y.

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## No. 34.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India to the address of the Secretary, Foreign Department, dated the 9th May 1888.

*After compliments*—I beg to state that the Amir's officials have written to me from Umritsur stating that a rumour is afloat there to the effect that three days ago Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan arrived at Karachi with his followers; that he would go to Rawal Pindi direct from that place; and that he would take up his quarters at Rawal Pindi. As it is a rumour only, I beg to enquire if Muhammad Ayub Khan has really arrived at Karachi, and to ask what place has been fixed for his residence. I want to know this for His Highness the Amir's information.

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## No. 35.

No. 84-P.O., dated Simla, the 15th May 1888.

From—H. M. DURAND, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,

To—GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN.

*After compliments*—In reply to your letter of the 9th of May, I am directed to inform you that Sardars Ayub Khan and Hashim Khan, with their followers, arrived at Karachi on the 6th instant. They are now on their way to Rawal Pindi, and it has been decided that during the summer the Sardars and their households will reside at Murree, their followers remaining at Rawal Pindi, where they will be joined by the Sardars during the winter months.

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## No. 36.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India to the address of the Secretary, Foreign Department, dated the 18th May 1888.

*After compliments*—I have received your letter in which you informed me about the place fixed for the residence of Sardar Ayub Khan. In my previous letter I forgot to ask you one point which I do now. I shall feel obliged if you will kindly send me a list of the Afghans who have come to India from Persia with Sardars Muhammad Ayub Khan and Hashim Khan, letting me know at the same time the clans to which they belong and which of them are officers and which are not. This list is required for the Amir, who will be glad to learn that such a number of the wandering Afghans have come under the control of his kind friends, the British authorities. I shall be highly exalted if an early reply is sent to me. As soon as I receive the list I shall send it on to His Highness.

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## No. 37.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India, to the address of the Secretary, Foreign Department, dated the 21st May 1888.

*After compliments*—I beg to state that since the arrival of Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan in India I have been hearing various kinds of rumours. I have thought it advisable to bring some points to your notice. A short time ago Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan was at Teheran at a distance of 700 miles from the frontiers of Afghanistan. When he made up his mind to run away he succeeded in doing so from Persia, notwithstanding his having been watched by the Persian authorities. The watchmen placed over him were



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of no avail. All attempts to trace him were unsuccessful for three months. When this Sardar was kept at Teheran with a view that he might remain at a distance from Afghanistan, what satisfaction has he now given that a residence has been assigned to him at a distance of only 50 miles from Afghanistan? The Sublime Government has taken all this trouble and incurred all the expenses for the sake of keeping Afghanistan in a peaceful condition and allowing its ruler to remain at ease as regards the internal affairs of his country, and devote his whole attention to the frontiers, which is a service to the British Government. This young Sardar does not possess experience enough to understand the weight of friendship and of entering into a covenant. He is surrounded by a number of mischievous men and acts as advised by them. He cannot distinguish between good and evil, and is unacquainted with the requirements of statesmanship. No trust should be placed in such a man. He will never do an act which will be approved of by the Sublime Government. I have heard that an Afghan Darbar is held at Rawal Pindi and is attended by the followers of the Sardar who accompanied him to India. I have also heard that the Sardars of Amritsar, Lahore, and Peshawar come to pay their respects to the Sardar and go back to the places appointed for their residence. Some of them have engaged houses at Rawal Pindi. Many of the refugees, who have been in India, claimed allowances from Sardars Muhammad Ayub Khan and Hashim Khan, who have re-assured them. I am astonished to hear such rumours. I do not know whether what I have heard is true or false. If it is true, I am sorry that Government has placed such confidence on the Sardar. His Excellency the Viceroy spoke as follows at Government House at Calcutta:—"His Highness the Amir may have heard of the coming of Ayub to India." I replied "certainly." His Excellency then said: "The Amir should now enjoy peace to the day of Resurrection." How kind His Excellency is to his friend. No trust should be placed on the oaths and oily words of these young Sardars by the officers who are placed over them. If they relax their vigilance for a minute the Sardars will disappear, and then it will be very difficult to find a trace of them. The family of Amir Sher Ali Khan will never be friends with the Sublime Government. They should be watched very carefully.

Some troops should be placed at the Attock Bridge so that his followers may not go to Peshawar at their own pleasure. I hear his followers number 2 or 3,000 men.

Further, you know these affairs better than I do.

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*P.S.*—I have stated above what representations I had to make. Kindly give me a reply in writing, so that I may send it on to the Amir. I shall never write to the Amir the bazaar rumours or the news which are published in newspapers.

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## No. 38.

No. 87-P.O., dated Simla, the 23rd May 1888.

From—W. J. CUNINGHAM, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,

To—GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN.

*After compliments*—In reply to your letter of the 18th instant I am directed to forward a list of the Afghans who have accompanied Sardars Ayub Khan and Hashim Khan to India.

The list may be not quite accurate, but it contains the names of all those known at present to the Government of India. The remainder are probably servants or persons of no consideration or importance.



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## No. 39.

No. 30, dated Rawal Pindi, the 23rd May 1888.

From—Captain W. Evans-Gordon, Political Agent with Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan,

To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I have the honour to forward the diary of political intelligence in this Agency for the week ending on the 20th May 1888.

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## No. 40.

Diary of the Political Agent in charge of Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan, for the week ending the 20th May 1888.

*Sunday, 13th May.*—Arrived at Rawal Pindi from Karachi at 11 A.M., the special train being timed for 10-30 A.M. The whole journey up country which involved extensive arrangements for food, etc. *en route* was completed without the slightest hitch.

The Afghans were at first troublesome in leaving the train at every station and in declining to get back into their carriages. This was merely ignorance, and Ayub, to whom I explained the necessity for punctuality, gave me his full support and soon brought his following to order.

At the Rawal Pindi station the Sardar was met by the Deputy Commissioner and the Station Staff Officer. All the leading Afghans in Pindi were on the platform and the greetings between them and the new arrivals were cordial. Jalal-ud-Din Khan (son of late Wazir Akbar Khan and cousin of Ayub) did not meet the Sardar at the station. A large crowd of natives had assembled outside the station.

Ayub, Hashim, and his leading men accompanied by the British officers and Political Agent were then driven to the houses taken for the Sardar.

The Deputy Commissioner, Station Staff Officer, and Political Agent then took leave.

The remainder of the party were distributed among their houses in the city. The whole proceedings were carried out without confusion or hitch.

*14th.* Ayub accompanied by Hashim and Fatteh Muhammad Khan visited the Commissioner of Rawal Pindi at 8 A.M. The Sardar, who had made some difficulty about paying the first visit at Karachi, on this occasion readily acquiesced in what he was asked to do.

There were some complaints about the house accommodation in the city, but these were mostly settled without serious difficulty.

I had an interview with Ayub Khan in the evening during which he told me that the two houses provided for him were insufficient for his family, and that he himself had no place to sit in or receive visitors.

He was perfectly courteous and polite, but said he was obliged to trouble me with this matter. It appears that instead of 28, the number of whose advent I had been advised, the Sardar has 55 ladies in his own house hold, and the question of accommodating them is one of much difficulty.

It was evidently true that the two houses, one of which was intended for the Sardar and one for the harem sarai, were both together insufficient for the ladies alone.

The Sardar asked me to take another house without furniture for him to sit in during the day. I replied that this was, I thought, impossible and begged him to use a tent while here and to hasten his departure for the hills.

After some further discussion he consented to this with a good grace, although the heat in tents at present is very severe.



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(14)

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F 40 Amir's complaints regarding treatment given to Ayub Khan in India.

In the evening I had a letter from Hashim Khan saying that his house was also insufficient for his wants.

Ayub paid a visit to Jalal-ud-din-Khan during the day. Hashim and a few Sardars accompanied him. Jalal-ud-din offered Ayub a nazar of some 30 or 40 gold pieces and said:—

"I did not go to meet you at the railway station because I wanted to uphold our family honour and custom. You have called upon me for the same reason, but in truth you are the head of the whole family and it is the duty of us all to respect you. I have lived for years in the Punjab and according to the custom of the country I present you with these mohurs and trust you will honour me by accepting them as by this means all our people here will recognize in you their chief."

After at first refusing the nazar, Ayub eventually took it and said I pray God to help me to do service to my family and my people. My late father used to say that we all were your . . . . . late father's servants and he advised us always to treat you as our master, so I am, and every true Afghan is, your slave ("ghulam").

*15th.*—At 7 A. M. I paid a visit to Hashim Khan and though he was not in a good humour at first I left him after two hours' conversation quite content having conceded nothing. At 10 A. M. I went to see Ayub Khan and found him somewhat irritable and knocked up from the heat.

After consulting the Commissioner I succeeded in getting a third house close by for the Sardar to use during the day. I felt it to be unfair to keep him under canvas any longer as he was evidently suffering from the heat.

Colonel Nisbet, accompanied by Colonel Napier, King's Dragoon Guards returned the Sardar's visit in the evening. They were both impressed by the geniality and charm of Ayub's manner. Jalal-ud-din Khan returned Ayub's visit.

*16th.*—Visited all the houses in the city and saw most of the Sardars personally. They seemed on the whole fairly content, though naturally with people so well-treated there was some grumbling.

Ayub holds his Darbar as a rule every morning and evening. All the leading Afghans in Rawal Pindi have attended and many other people have been to pay their respects.

Jalal-ud-din Khan gave a dinner party in Ayub's honour. Ayub took the opportunity of reconciling his brother Ibrahim with Jalal-ud-din and persuaded him to attend the repast. The following Sardars were among those present:—

Ibrahin Khan.

| | |
|---|---|
| Hashim Khan with two brothers. | Mustaufi Habibulla. |
| Karim Khan. | Sipah Salar Hussein Ali Khan. |
| Ahmad Khan. | Amir Muhammad Khan. |
| Shah Muhammad (Wazir). | The Luinab. |
| Amin-ud-Doula (he of the diamond). | Fateh Muhammad Khan. |
| Daud Shah. | Taj Muhammad Khan (of Maiwand). |
| A son of the late Zakrya Khan. | Mirza Ghulam Ghous. |

A curious party to be taking food together in Rawal Pindi.

Ayub was treated with great honour and respect by all. The conversation ran upon the relative merits of the continental armies.

Amin-ud-dowla was "chaffed" about his diamond and promised to give it to Ayub when he (Ayub) became Amir.

A Persian poet repeated some lines praying God to make Ayub Amir to which all the company added a solemn "Amen."



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*17th.*—Some 13 strange Afghans were at Ayub's Darbar this morning; among them was Abdul Aziz Khan, said to be a son of the Khan of Talpur.

The Sardar seems to think it probable that many of the Mohmands (his mother's tribe) will come to see him.

The refugees in Pindi have been watching the reception and treatment of Ayub closely and now say that the British Government must mean to make him Amir.

Ayub Khan sent telegrams announcing his arrival and expressing good wishes to his brother Yakub and his uncle Wali Muhammad Khan at Amritsar. They both sent congratulatory messages in reply.

*18th.*—I paid a long visit to the Sardar in the evening and arranged about his journey to Murree. He fixed Friday the 25th as the day of his departure. We had some conversation about various matters of importance with the particulars of which I need not trouble Government.*

* These subjects will require special report.

The Sardar requires very gentle handling and is more easily led than driven. He will not move if told he must do such and such, but if asked to do anything, and it is left to his good sense to decide, he will as a rule do what is required of him.

*19th.*—I went up to Murree to see that the houses, &c., were ready. The Sardar had sent Hussein Ali Khan, the Sipah Salar, in advance, and it was necessary to go in order to check any absurd requests.

*20th.*—I returned to Rawal Pindi.

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## No. 41.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India to the address of the Secretary, Foreign Department, dated the 26th May 1888.

*After compliments*—Previous to this I sent you a letter on the 21st May regarding the rumours which I had heard about Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan, but have not as yet received any reply. I am afraid lest you consider my words like those of other Afghan officers, which are difficult to be proved. I consider myself a well-wisher of the two Governments. As the interests of the Amir and of the British authorities are identical, I consider it my duty to acquaint you with the information which I may receive. Making a representation to you is, as it were, making a representation to the Amir. With a view to confirming my statement, I send herewith a letter addressed by Sardar Muhammad Saddik Khan, son of Sardar Nazar Muhammad Khan, son-in-law of Sardar Wali Muhammad Khan, to Sardar Wali Muhammad Khan. This letter has been sent to me by one of my friends, who has urged me to return it to him. I have sent a copy of it also, so that the officials of the Persian Office may compare the copy with the original and return the original to me.*

* The original letter has been returned.

*28th May 1888.* M. A. K.

You are well acquainted with the affairs of the Afghans. Please observe that the man who was arrested by force of arms, who has been treated with kingly honour, who has not an inch of land in the whole world to live in, who has taken refuge under the shadow of Government, and who stood in need of his safety and one crust of bread, makes such utterances in a public assembly. The Sardars made illuminations and exhibitions of fireworks. He has not as yet given up his evil practices.

Further, you know better than I do,



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## No. 42.

Translation of a copy of a letter from SARDAR MUHAMMAD SADDIK KHAN, son (son-in-law) of SARDAR WALI MUHAMMAD KHAN, to the address of his father (father-in-law), dated the 5th Ramzan 1305 H. (17th May 1888).

*After compliments*—After I left you I reached Rawal Pindi at 11 P.M. On the way I found the places near the jail illuminated and there were fireworks also. The next morning I enquired as to what took place in the railway station and found that the Deputy Commissioner with his subordinates made all the Kabuli "Sardars" at Rawal Pindi, excepting Jalal-ud-Din Khan, stand at the station. A carpet and a durree were spread on the platform on which Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan alighted. Muhammad Ibrahim Khan was first introduced to him, whereupon Ayub Khan fell at his feet. Then the Sardar embraced me and Sardar Muhammad Karim Khan, Mustaufi Habibullah, Daud Shah Khan, and Mulla Shah Muhammad fell at Ayub Khan's feet. Some of the Muhammadzais took his hand and some fell at his feet. Then he took the hands of the Deputy Commissioner and others and went to the house near the jail. The house was very bad, full of hemp, shrub, and pits and in a quite dilapidated condition. As the Luinab was superintending the arrangements for Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan's lodgings and Muhammad Tahir Khan for those of Hashim Khan, and as the *zenana* of the Sardars had reached the place the day before yesterday, a *purdah* was made in the house by putting up sack-cloths. Other people (the Sardar's followers) are looking out for houses in every quarter of the town. The houses which fetch a rent of ₹3 now fetch ₹10, and those which used to be let out on ₹10 are now rented for ₹30. It is said that Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan's followers, both male and female, number 1,003, besides those who have not yet arrived at Baghdad, such as his sister, the wife of Sahibzadah Uzran, who was forced by Amir Abdur Rahman to divorce her and send her to the Sardar. Sardar Sher Muhammad Khan, son of Sardar Muhammad Saddik Khan, with family and servants, has not yet reached Baghdad, being 12 stages from that place as is mentioned in a telegram which Sardar Ayub Khan has received to-day from Colonel Tore Khan. These 1,300 (*sic.*) persons have for the last four days been receiving cooked food on the part of Government. Such dainties are being supplied from the city as none of them would have eaten had he had to pay for them himself.

Hashim Khan and his brother have engaged, on a rent of ₹300, two houses belonging to Jamasji, which he used as his shop. Tahir Khan has taken a house in the city near the school.

After the Sardar (Ayub Khan) had passed a day after his arrival, he went to the house of Jalal-ud-Din Khan, who presented him a gift of 100 *Bokhara tilas*, but he did not accept it. He then went to the place of Sardar Muhammad Karim Khan to offer him condolence.

With great difficulty I secured to-day a carriage on hire only to take me to the Sardar's residence, for carriages cannot be got under ₹7 or ₹8. The keepers of carriages do not agree to let their carriages on hire only for a trip and a return trip, but they let them out on whole day's hire.

Yesterday, while I was yet on my way, the Sardar, who was vexed on account of the house, sent harsh messages to the Deputy Commissioner through the Tahsildar and the Extra Assistant Commissioners. The Deputy Commissioner came to him in the afternoon and pleaded excuses, which were reasonable, saying that he would at once make any house vacant that the Sardar's officials would consider suitable, however good that house might be. A very good house near which the railway line runs was then vacated. When I went to-day I found the Sardar in it. No sooner than he saw me he got up, embraced me, and showed me great affection and kindness. Then he made enquiries about you. I tendered him your salâams and told him that you were well. There-



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upon he said: "I had no knowledge of the country. Had I known that only two hours would take me to my uncle I would have spoken to the English and surely gone and seen my uncle, who is in the place of my father, especially when he is ill, for I am indebted to him and younger than him." When he spoke in the above manner he was largely attended, and he further said: "I sent a telegram enquiring after the Sardar's (Wali Muhammad's) health. As regards an answer to his letter I quite forgot to write it as I was very much engaged, for I have no clerk with me. Sardar Fatteh Muhammad Khan works as a scribe. I wish very much that my uncle and I remain together at Rawal-Pindi. He was in the place of my father, and I in the place of his son, and whatever (feelings) we may bear to each other, it is better for all that we both remain together." Sardar Muhammad Karim Khan addressing the Sardar said: "Yesterday I wrote out everything what you said kindly of the Sardar (Wali Muhammad Khan) and sent the letter. When you have settled down you can arrange for the Sardar joining and staying with you." The Sardar said: "It will not do to remain separate. Whatever may happen it will be better to remain together."

Abdur Rahman, son of Amir, has come to-day from Karachi. He sat for two hours. I examined him well and found him not failing any way whether in keeping society or in speech. If you see him you will like him although you have seen hundreds of persons of your family, whether old or young, and known their worth. He is really a man as he is wise. Age does not bring intelligence with it.

I then went to Muhammad Hashim Khan's residence in order to condole with him, and found him in the same condition as he used to be during the late Amir Sher Ali Khan's time, and Mir Baghir Khwaja as proud as he used to be, but rather more haughty. Muhammad Hashim Khan was drunk, having taken strong spirit. He asked me if you were well. I said "Yes. He has asked me to tender his compliments to you." Then he asked me whether you were angry with him. I replied that I did not know, but that you had told me: "Should Muhammad Hashim Khan ask you about me, tender my compliments to him, but if he does not make enquiries, you should be careful not to make any mention of me to him." Thereupon he said: "Why should I not enquire about him? I regard him as I would regard my father." I then got up. From the Sardar's manners it appears that he will never improve, as a hog's tusk however much you cover it with gold never becomes pure and is ever considered unclean. The manners of Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan are those of great men.

Sardar Muhammad Karim Khan asked me in the presence of the Sardar why I had not taken Muhammad Rafik Khan to pay his respects to the Sardar. I replied that the Sardar (Rafik Khan) was not well, and moreover there was nobody to look after my family during by absence, and that he would come himself shortly.

The journey to Murree has not yet been settled upon.

The Sardar has received to-day a letter from the Deputy Commissioner, who has asked him to select a site at Rawal Pindi alter inspecting the place, so that arrangements may be made for the construction of a house for himself and his family, and that the house may be made ready by the time he returns from Murree.

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## No. 43.

No. 53, dated Murree, the 1st June 1888.

From—Captain W. Evans-Gordon, Political Agent with Sirdar Muhammad Ayub Khan,

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

I have the honour to forward the diary of political Intelligence in this Agency for the week ending on the 27th of May 1888.



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## No. 44.

Diary of the Political Agent in charge of SARDAR MUHAMMAD AYUB KHAN, for the week ending the 27th May 1888.

*21st.*—Hashim Khan paid a visit to the Political Agent at 7 A. M. He talked at great length about his affairs, his previous history and the services he had rendered Government.

He is very jealous of Ayub as Ayub is of him. He said he was anxious to visit Simla and lay his case personally before the Foreign Secretary. I dissuaded him from this. He is anxious to have his brother's allowances finally settled with the pay of his followers. He is evidently much perturbed at the treatment of Abdur Rahman, Ayub's brother, as under his agreement the rates of his brother's allowances are to be fixed proportionately to the amount given to Abdur Rahman.

*22nd.*—Political Agent visited Hashim Khan.

*23rd.*—Political Agent visited Ayub Khan, and had a long interview with him.

The following subjects were discussed :—

*Pay.*—The Sirdar, after a long discussion, agreed to accept his allowances and the pay of his followers according to the list furnished to General MacLean at Meshed on the understanding that he would repay the allowances of such of his followers as do not eventually join him. The Government of India have been officially informed of the details of this transaction (My No. 42, dated 28th May 1888).

*Move to Murree.*—Details for the journey to Murree were settled. The Sardar had previously furnished a list of the people he proposed to take. This I discussed with him eventually inducing him to reduce the number by about three-quarters.

*Visitors from Afghanistan.*—The Sardar said he wished to ask my advice on a matter of importance. Many people were coming in to see him from Afghanistan. He wished to conceal nothing from me and would give me a list of their names. They came to him offering submission and service and he wished to know how he should treat and answer them.

I thanked him for the confidence he had reposed in me and said that I felt sure Government would be glad to hear of his behaviour in this matter. As to the treatment of his visitors I advised him to receive them civilly, to thank them for coming so far to see him, and to immediately dismiss them to their homes. He said he would do so, but asked whether he might not give them money. I begged him not to give them a farthing even for their road expenses. In the first place I said he could not afford it and he would be acting against the spirit of his agreement with Government if he encouraged visitors from across the border in any way. Secondly, I told him that entertainment or presents to these people would place him in a very dangerous and difficult position, and I hinted that if many more came to see him it might oblige the Government to re-consider the desirability of keeping him so near the frontier.

The Sardar replied that he was fully conscious of the dangers and difficulties around him and would be guided by my advice. He expressed great regret that I could not permit him to pay the expenses of his visitors, who expected at least that. I told him I was sorry to be obliged to advise him against his inclinations and the customs of his country but that I did so for his good.

While on this subject I said that I must warn him against his own people, who, thinking to serve him, might commence intrigues with their friends in Afghanistan. I told him that while Government held only his personal promise not to act against their advice they would hold him responsible for the loyalty and good behaviour of his whole party. He must, therefore, use his



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influence to keep them in order and tell them that it would only be his enemies who would act against his advice.

He subsequently acted upon this and told all his people in Darbar that he was now a friend of the Government and that the promise he had given on his own behalf equally applied to them.

"Keep then," he said, "your tongues from speaking and your hands from writing any evil thing against the Government unless you wish my ruin."

The following is a translation of the list of people from across the border given to me by Ayub who visited him at Pindi. The list he said included only the names of the more important men.

(*1.*) *Shinwarris.*

Armiya Khan, Khushdil Khan } Grandsons of Sikandar Khan, with seven servants. (They left ten at Peshawar.)

The following Malaks (headmen) had joined them and are still with them:—

Malak Uzbek.
„ Lashkar.
„ Iran.
„ Shahzaman.
„ Mehr Din.
„ Gul Muhammad.
„ Shah Gul.
„ Turan.
„ Mir Afzal.
„ Ghiljai.
„ Sharf Din.
„ Ahmad Jan.
Mean Shah Rasul.
Syid Mean.
Syid Gul Mean.
Mir Haidar Mean.
Malak Mean Gul.
„ Allah Jan.
„ Ahmad Shah.
„ Ghulam Jan.
„ Kundal.
„ Sharbat.
„ Lal Khan.
„ Madad.
„ Ahmad.
„ Adam.
„ Morjea (?)
„ Sazmir.
„ Azam Khan.
„ Shahzada.

(*2*) *Babubakar Khel.*

Abdulla Jan, nephew of Faiz Muhammad Khan.

Saadat Khan, cousin of Faiz Muhammad Khan.

Yaid Khan, servant of Syed Ahmad Jan Badshah.

*24th*—I heard to-day that Sardar Jalal-ud-Din Khan talks of moving away from Pindi. He is jealous of Ayub and prophesies evil on account of the visitors Ayub is receiving from Afghanistan. He compares Rawal Pindi to a smaller Kabul, and expresses a fear that the large Afghan colony must sooner or later begin intriguing in Afghanistan against the Amir.

Ayub Khan, accompanied by the Political Agent, General Daud Shah and General Taj Muhammad Khan, attended the parade held in honour of the Queen's birthday. He rode to the ground and was presented to Colonel Waterfield, the Officer Commanding.

The Sardar was greatly impressed by the appearance of the troops, and gave undisguised expression to his pleasure and surprise.

*25th.*—Started at 4 A.M. with Ayub Khan and five attendants for Murree, where we arrived at 10-30 A.M. Ayub was unaffectedly pleased with the houses provided for him and with the place and air. He expressed his great gratitude to Government for all that had been done for him.



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*26th*—Visited Ayub in the morning. The Sardar expected that oil, water, bearers, and other house expenses would be given him. I informed him that this could not be done. He considers that these things are included in the words, &c., &c., of the agreement and he is anxious to know what these words mean.

Paid a visit to Hashim Khan, who represented that the houses provided for him were not sufficient for his family. This is very unfortunate, as larger houses could have been taken for less money by the local authorities. Hashim's protests are partly forced on him by the necessities of the case and partly due to his jealousy of Ayub Khan, who has been given four houses.

I told him that I was afraid nothing could be done, and that he must make the best of what he had got or take more houses for himself. Next year the arrangement could be revised.

I think it possible that we can sublet one of Hashim's houses and provide him with another larger one in exchange.

*27th*—There was some further discussion about household expenses to-day. Ayub Khan gave orders for the entertainment of sweepers, bearers, &c., and made his own arrangements for lamp oil, &c. He still adhered to his view that these items fall fairly on the Government under the terms of the agreement.

At dinner in the evening the Sardar talked of the way he had been received and treated by Government, and referred to the honor of having been provided with a passage on the *Lawrence* and a seat in the tonga which had been specially built for the Viceroy. He said that other honours (meaning guards, &c.) were reserved for ruling princes, and that it was fair that he should not get them.

He said he feared lest his enemy (meaning the Amir) should bring complaints against him and induce the English to move him from Rawal Pindi. Hashim and Shah Muhammad Khan (the Wazir) told him that the Government would never take any steps against him as long as he held to his promise; but if it were discovered that he was acting contrary to his agreement, the Government would of course remove him from Pindi.

Ayub replied that he would prove to the English that he was a man of his word.

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## No. 45.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India to the address of the Native Attaché, Foreign Office, received in the Persian Office on the 8th June 1888.

*After compliments*—I received a letter from His Highness the Amir to my address, which I send to you together with a copy thereof. The letter is in the Amir's hand writing which you know. You will be pleased to compare, as usual, the copy with the original letter and return the latter to me. I hope you will explain to the Secretary that the letter is in the handwriting of His Highness the Amir. The Amir has in his letter made an imputation of negligence on my part, *viz.*, he has blamed me. I am not in the habit of communicating to His Highness the news which appears in the newspapers, but I send him whatever information the British authorities give me. This is a political affair and a delicate matter too, as you yourself can well understand. My object is that you may explain the matter fully to the Secretary. I have also hinted that in my letter (to him). I await receipt of reply to my letters as well as an answer to His Highness the Amir's letter alluded to above. I shall send them on their receipt to His Highness in order to set his heart at rest, as well as to free myself from the censure.



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I have read a newspaper which I send to you, with the view that you may show it to the Secretary and tell him that such news appears in the papers.

## No. 46.

Translation of a letter from the Amir's Agent with the Government of India to the address of the Foreign Secretary, dated June 1888, received in the Persian Office on the 8th June 1888.

*After compliments*—I send to you a letter which is in the handwriting of His Highness the Amir and which he sent to me, considering it necessary to do so, thinking that from it you will know that somebody has forwarded to His Highness some newspapers published in India containing false news. As I did not communicate anything to His Highness, because I have been awaiting answers to my letters to you so that I may be able to give authentic information to His Highness—answers which I have not received as yet. I beg you to consider whether His Highness may or not get anxious when he receives false and nonsensical news, while no information is given to him by the British authorities, for he anxiously looks to the authorities for information. Now you will be pleased to give such information as you deem fit regarding Ayub and his followers for communication to the Amir. On receiving the information he will be able to set his heart at rest, and may not listen to what people who talk nonsense say, and consider what information I have received is true. The news published in the papers is false and nonsense.

## No. 47.

Translation of a letter from His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan and its Dependencies to the address of his Agent, General Amir Ahmad Khan, received in the Persian Office on 8th June 1888.

*After compliments*—I have learnt from the Indian newspapers that Muhammad Ayub has arrived at Rawal Pindi and holds Darbars day and night. All the refugees come to pay their respects to him and then go away. I do not understand whether by this treatment it is intended to show him honour or disgrace. If the latter, then what does he mean by holding Darbars? If the former, I am at a loss to know what benefit the British authorities expect to derive in honouring him. I should know this. What has become to you that you have failed to get all information about him.

You write that the British authorities wish or will express a desire that all the refugees, with the exception of Yakub Khan, Ayub Khan, and Muhammad Hashim Khan, may be reconciled to me, so that they may again set their foot on the soil of Afghanistan. It is a mistake. What anxieties have I not suffered on account of their presence in Afghanistan? What accusations did they not bring against me and what harm did they not do to the hearts of the people of Afghanistan and to their families? How is it that they have improved now? Have not the people of Afghanistan suffered anxieties on account of the envy of these envious creatures during the last eight years that they now wish to inflict the people of Afghanistan with epilepsy? They have now to some extent shaken off this desire. How can they suffer the four deprived temperaments to take possession of the body of Afghanistan?

During the deceased Amir Sher Ali Khan's reign all these men considered themselves heirs to his Government and his well-wishers. Although they entertained hostile feelings against him yet they professed friendship towards him. They did not behave like rational beings and ate away everything they could get. Now their wickedness has become potent to all the people of Afghanistan. How will they be able to live now? Other well-disposed and faithful servants



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and pious men have been entertained in their places. All of them have rendered services to Government and to the religion. Ten or twenty persons have been appointed in the place of each of them. The high pay which each of these fools used to draw is now distributed among several wise men, who are the well-wishers of Government and of religion. The first proof of what I say is this that during their tenure of office a single European could not live (in Afghanistan) for more than a few days, but since these wise and discreet officers have been employed nearly 100 persons (Europeans) travelled through the frontiers of Afghanistan for a year or more. In these mountains not one of them knew whether he was in Afghanistan or was travelling in Europe. But those men (the former officials) could not keep a single European even in Kabul. Of what use can such officials be (to me)? They muddle the water to catch fish. If up to this time they entertained other designs now they will excite the Russians and open communication with them and will hold out promises to them as they did write and say to the British Government during the time of their master Amir Sher Ali Khan, and thus put the great power (British Government) into difficulties, until I arrived in Afghanistan and re-assured the people to some extent. The politicians of the world know in what a critical state the affairs of Afghanistan and India were (at that time). How is it that the British authorities have forgotten all this? Or is it that with a new year they commence a new work (policy?)? There are the very men who made the people of Afghanistan enemies of the British Government. They boast of being competent men but "Musk is known by its smell and it does not need the perfumer's praise." I write to you that these are bad men and evil-doers and they are disturbers of the internal affairs of Afghanistan to the extent of their power. Moreover there is no surplus money in Afghanistan for their maintenance, and therefore how will they support themselves unless they do evil practices. They will have to starve. "This worthless stomach which has several folds in it will not be satisfied with anything." The bread has been eaten up and taken away by the present incumbents, what will they eat? They will have to resign themselves (to God). Resignation is a part of brave men. Through impatience they have degraded themselves to this state. Every one of them is a bear in the shape of a human being.

I write to you to inform me how the British authorities treat the refugees, and Muhammad Ayub and Muhammad Hashim.

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## No. 48.

Abstract translation of a passage which appeard in the *Oudh Akhbar*, dated the 5th June 1888, quoting from the *Aftab-i-Punjab*.

*Location of Ayub Khan at Rawal Pindi.*—Our contemporary *Jhelum* states—"It is rumoured in Peshawar that the Amir of Kabul has deputed Abdus-Subhan Khan Balkhi with a letter to the Czar of Russia stating—'The selection of Rawal Pindi for the residence of Ayub Khan has shattered my confidence in the friendship of the British, for the bitter enmity existing between him and me needs no description. I consider his stay at Rawal Pindi as equal to the removal of Yakub Khan to that place. It is clear to me that in a very short time Ayub Khan will rise in opposition to me and will be acknowledged as an heir to the throne.' We cannot vouch for the truth of the above rumour, but by this action of Government the Amir's mind will possibly be alienated. The instant Amir Abdur Rahman Khan heard of this his suspicion must have again arisen against Government, and it is well known to what course his suspicion will lead him. We are not aware of the special reasons which may have caused the administrators of our Government to adopt this course. But these question is whether we have no necessity for friendship with and help from Afghanistan. If so what object was there to fix the subsidy of 12 lakhs of rupees per annum and supply unlimited number of arms and military stores to Abdur Rahman Khan or

to spend 42 lakhs of rupees on his reception at Rawal Pindi, or is it that the aspect of affairs has so changed as to make us independent of Afghanistan? There is no doubt that the Afghans like Ayub Khan and hate Abdur Rahman, but is it advisable to make an experienced man like Abdur Rahman Khan disappointed and allow him to join the Russians? But we think that our wise politicians are doing what is right."



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No 49.

No. 115 P.O., dated Simla, the 28th June 1888.

From—H. M. DURAND, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,

To—GENERAL AMIR AHMAD KHAN.

I have shown to His Excellency the Viceroy the Amir's letter to you of the 8th June regarding Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan; and though the Sardar's position and circumstances have been fully explained to you by His Excellency during your recent interview, he desires me to send you this letter in order that you may send it to the Amir, and that no possibility of misunderstanding may remain.

As His Excellency informed you the sole object of the Government of India in bringing Ayub Khan to this country was to prevent him from raising any further trouble in Afghanistan. So long as he remained in Persia experience had shown that he might at any moment escape and make a fresh attempt to gain a footing in Herat. It seemed to His Excellency that although the first attempt had failed, the Sardar's presence near the western frontiers of Afghanistan must always be a source of anxiety to the Amir, and he therefore determined, if possible, to take advantage of the opportunity, and to bring the Sardar into the hands of the Government of India. His Highness will readily understand that this could not be effected without difficulty and expense. The Sardar, though unsuccessful and a fugitive, was yet free from any control either on the part of the Persian Government or on the part of the Government of India. It was therefore necessary to deal very carefully with him, to abstain from any course that could alarm him, and to effect by negotiation what it would have been impossible to effect by force.

The result was that not only Sardar Ayub Khan but also Sardar Hashim Khan, and all other influential men of the party opposed to His Highness, were gradually brought to accept terms and were removed to India.

Since that time they have been honourably treated, and allowed a reasonable amount of freedom in their intercourse with each other and with other refugees. This was proper and inevitable, for the Sardars did not surrender themselves as prisoners, but came to India on certain conditions which the British Government is bound to respect. If their conditions had not been accepted the Sardars need not have come. As they have been accepted they must be observed, for the faith of the Viceroy is pledged. The Sardars must therefore be treated as guests and not as captives, and the Viceroy feels sure that the Amir will recognise the propriety of this course.

At the same time His Excellency wishes me to assure you, as he has done personally, that the Amir need not apprehend any troublesome intrigues on the part of the Sardars. Their conditions were accepted and their allowances fixed on the understanding that they would refrain from any action against his interests, and that they would conform generally to the wishes of the Government of India. They will certainly not be allowed either to cross the frontier, or to stir up disaffection beyond it; and Sardar Ayub Khan has already been warned that he must not receive visits from discontented persons who may come to him at Rawalpindi. His Highness may make his mind easy on this score. The Sardars are in the hands of his friends, and they will not be allowed to do him any mischief.

As to the proposal that all the refugees should be reconciled to His Highness excepting Sardars Yakub Khan, Ayub Khan, and Hashim Khan, I do not know where such an idea arose. No doubt it is desirable that the Amir should draw to himself as many Afghan Sardars as possible, but the Viceroy is aware that it would be impracticable to attempt any such general scheme as His Highness describes.

Finally, I am to inform you, with reference to the newspaper extract which you have sent me, that the Government of India cannot control the opinions of the Press. The Viceroy's confidence in His Highness will never be affected by anything which the newspapers may write, and he would advise the Amir not to pay too much attention to them. The Government of India itself is frequently attacked in this manner, and it is inevitable that at times some newspaper writers will make ignorant and irritating remarks about His Highness; but the only satisfactory course is to disregard them altogether.

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