SIMLA RECORDS—3.

1904.

(1)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

FRONTIER—A.

Proceedings, October 1904, No. 8.

Disposal of the opium imported into India from Afghanistan, without a pass, by Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan, a trade Agent of His Highness the Amir.

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Secret, A, B, or D.	Classification.	Month.	Year.	Nos.	Secret, A, B, or D.	Classification.	Month.	Year.	Nos.
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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT NOTES.

FRONTIER—A, OCTOBER 1904.

No. 8.

DISPOSAL OF THE OPIUM IMPORTED INTO INDIA FROM AFGHANISTAN, WITHOUT A PASS, BY GHULAM MOHI-UD-DIN KHAN, A TRADE AGENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE AMIR.

[*Notes in the Finance and Commerce Department.*]

FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, No. 1-R.T.M.—B., DATED THE 4TH (RECEIVED 8TH) AUGUST 1904.

Requests to be informed of the decision of the Government of India as regards the ultimate disposal of about 10 seers of Afghan opium imported, without a pass, by Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan, a trade agent of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan, and now kept in the office of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

Please see in this connection—

(1) Deputy Secretary's note dated 26th January 1904.

(2) His Excellency the Viceroy's note dated 28th January 1904.

(3) Mr. Clarke's note dated 30th January 1904.

(4) Our letter to Bengal, No. 759-S.R., dated 1st February 1904.

(5) Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 993-S.R., dated 11th February 1904.

The Government of Bengal was instructed to keep the opium in question in the office of the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, until further orders from the Government of India (*i.e.*) pending the receipt of an explanation or request from the Amir in regard to its disposal. The Government of Bengal now requests to be informed of the decision of the Government of India as regards the final disposal of the opium. It will be seen from Mr. Clarke's note dated 21st May 1904 that the Foreign Department do not intend to press for a reply from the Amir. As nothing has been settled in regard to the final disposal of the opium in question, the Foreign Department may be asked to say whether it is desired that the opium should continue to be held by the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, or whether it may be disposed of as confiscated opium.

B. I.,—12-8-1904.

Consult Foreign Department as proposed.

J. CAMPBELL,—12-8-1904.

Foreign Department.

The Board of Revenue should perhaps be told (through the Bengal Government) to continue to keep the opium for a little while longer, say another six months or so: if we do not hear from the Amir or his Envoy by then, the opium may be disposed of as confiscated opium?

P. D.,—16-8-1904.

Please see Frontier A, June 1904, Nos. 25-31.

We certainly do not intend to press for a reply from the Amir about the opium. But on the other hand, it would hardly be courteous to sell it, either now or six months hence, as confiscated opium, without first giving the Envoy notice of our intention.

I would suggest, therefore, that on the Envoy's return to Simla next month, we should tell him verbally that unless we hear something definite from him shortly, we shall, at the expiration of three months, treat the opium as confiscated and sell it.

This seems to me another proof of the way in which the Amir neglects State affairs. He must have heard all about this incident more than six months ago, but he makes no move.

E. H. S. CLARKE,—18-8-1904.

L. W. DANE,—18-8-1904.

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The Envoy says that we may do what we like with the opium. He is now thinking of trying to arrange for the sale of Kabul opium through the Punjab contractors and is working out a scheme which he will submit in due course. We may ask the Bengal Government to sell the opium at Calcutta and to credit the price to Government.

L. W. DANE,—13-9-1904.

The file may be sent to the Finance Department for action accordingly. We shall be glad to have a copy of the papers and notes.

E. H. S. CLARKE,—13-9-1904.

Finance Department.

The Bengal Government may be informed that the opium in question may now be disposed of as confiscated * opium.

* Rule 23 (2) of the Bengal Opium Rules.

Draft submitted.

B. I.,—14-9-1904.

The draft may issue.

(The draft and the preceding notes fully explain the case.)

J. CAMPBELL,—16-9-1904.

W. S. MEYER,—17-9-1904.

Foreign Department.

Pro. No. 8. FROM THE FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, No. 5928-Ex., DATED AND RECEIVED THE 19TH SEPTEMBER 1904.

Forwards copy of a letter addressed to the Government of Bengal stating that the opium imported into India from Afghanistan, without a pass, by Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan, may now be disposed of as confiscated opium.

For information only. No orders.

E. H. S. CLARKE,—21-9-1904.

Exd.—W. S. D'R.

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DISPOSAL OF THE OPIUM IMPORTED INTO INDIA FROM AFGHANISTAN, WITHOUT A PASS, BY GHULAM MOHI-UD-DIN KHAN, A TRADE AGENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE AMIR,

No. 5928-Ex., dated the 19th September 1904.

Memo. by the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department. Pro. No. 8.

Copy of the following, with a copy of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded to the Foreign Department, in continuation of the communication from this Department, No. 759-S.R.,* dated the 1st February 1904. * Frontier A, June 1901, Nos. 25-31, No. (28).

No. 5928-Ex., dated Simla, the 19th September 1904.

From—J. CAMPBELL, Esq., I.C.S., Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

In reply to your letter No. 1-R.T.M.—B., dated the 4th August 1904, I am directed to say that the opium imported into India from Afghanistan without a pass by Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan, a trade agent of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan, may now be disposed of as confiscated opium.

No. 1-R.T.M.—B., dated L. G.'s Camp, the 4th August 1904. Enclo., Pro. No. 8.

From—L. P. SHIRRES, Esq., I.C S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 993-S.R., dated the 11th February 1904, regarding the importation of Afghan opium, without a pass, by Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan, a trade agent of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan, I am directed to request that this Government may be informed when orders are passed by the Government of India regarding the opium in question, in order that orders may be issued to the Board of Revenue regarding its ultimate disposal.

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