



INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

C.

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

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Rs.

As.

Office Stamp

25 MAR 55

Handed in at (Office of Origin).

Date.

Hour.

Minute.

Service Instructions.

Words.

Lahore

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TO

Rauri ch Naggar

Recd. here at

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H.

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M.

Delayed another day by doctor
 if twenty six this convenient please
 Send word Waltonia :
 Mahon

2

Manali
6th July 1935

My dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of July 4th. I saw Mr. Gotley yesterday and I am afraid, from what he said, that there is practically no chance of getting the matter of the land settled in time to be of any use this season.

When I saw Mr Shibayev on the 3rd June I brought up the subject of this land, because I know how long it takes to get anything done where Government is concerned. As I did not hear, I concluded you were dropping this matter.

HLB has also applied for similar land above Manali and has also been told not to expect it in time to enable to him to make a start this season.

Mr Gotley told me that he will send his Ranger up if you can send anyone with him who can show him the exact plot of land. The villagers will then have to be notified and their objections, if any, considered. After which he will recommend Government to sanction the lease of the land. Government will sit on this for a few months. I suppose it has to go through all the official channels.

I am still waiting for Rs2000/- for the Manali Hospital which the Punjab Government promised me months ago. I have done all I can to get this money out of them, but it would be easier to move an elephant than it is to move the Punjab Government.

I will do everything I can in the way of writing to the various people concerned and ask each one to expedite this matter, but I am afraid that even so it will be a matter of months before it is settled.

Please let me know if it will be useless unless you have it in time for this season.

I wrote to Mr Asboe yesterday and will let you know as soon as I receive his reply. In the meantime I think you would be wise to take no further notice of Z's request. You may be quite sure that should Mme de Roerich decide on going to Lahul there would be no difficulty about obtaining the house.

Mrs Burke is with my wife at the moment, she tells me that Mr Burke is going to Lahul on the 24th.

I heard a rumour yesterday that when Mr Burke leaves in April that Mr Emerson is coming to take his place here. He is only officiating as Deputy Commissioner at present. Of course the death of Mr Ferguson will cause some changes.

I hope the comparatively cool breeze we are having today is helpful to Mme de Roerich. I fancy we shall have the monsoon in a day or so.

With our heartiest greetings to you all
Yours very sincerely

J. H. H. H.

COPY.

From

Colonel A.E. Mahon, D.S.O.

To

the District Forest Officer

Kulu Divn

Manali
6th July 1935

3

Dear Sir,

On behalf of Mr. S. Roerich, of The Hall, Naggar, Kulu, I have the honour to request that permission may be accorded for Mr. Roerich to lease about 12 acres of waste land at Chaklani, West of Chanderkhani Pass, at about 11,000, for the purpose of carrying out some experiments with plants.

Mr. Roerich would be greatly obliged if this matter could possibly be put through quickly in order that he might be able to take advantage of this season.

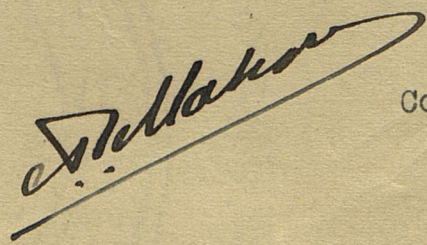
If your Ranger could call and see Mr. Roerich in Naggar he will be supplied with a reliable guide who can indicate the exact plot of land and who can act as Mr. Roerich's representative for this purpose.

I shall be grateful if you can tell me of anything I can do to help in getting this matter settled with as little delay as possible.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant



Colonel

4

Manali
11th July 1935

Dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of the 8th. I could not see Mr. Gotley on the 9th as he was in camp. I saw him yesterday and he told me he had given instructions to Jaswant Singh (the Ranger) to come to you as soon as he comes to Naggar. Mr Gotley expressed the hope that whoever you send up with the Ranger will be able to tell him definitely what land you want. He has promised to push the matter through as quickly as possible. Please let me know if I can do anything else in this matter.

Yesterday I received two letters from Mr Asboe. Perhaps the following extracts will interest you:-

"I can now tell you how things have turned out. So far at any rate we have got the worst of it, for though the D.C. and Inspector were so certain of the murder that they arrested the nobility on suspicion, they now have turned completely round, released the prisoners, and arrested Z and the Munshi on a charge of conspiracy to fabricate a charge of murder. They will not let these men be bailed out on less than two securities of Rs.2000/- each, i.e. to bail out Z alone it will be Rs4000/- and if I cannot get someone who will share this security, I shall have to bail him out for the colossal sum of Rs4000/-

It is rumoured all round the country, so I am told, that the police have been heavily bribed, and as for the D.C.himself he is like putty in the hands of the Inspector."

"Immediately the ~~Dix~~ Thakurs were released the D.C. & Co. went to Jispa and were entertained to a Devil Dance in the very village where the murder is said to have occurred.

I myself will most likely have to go to Dharmsala as prosecution witness, so you see I am in a sea of trouble though the D.C. maintains I had no choice but to go to report the matter."

The D.C. is convinced that the people are not in the least bit afraid of the Thakurs, and that all this talk is a ramp."

"I have already given you the latest news about Zodpa. Before he was arrested he certainly contemplated going to Ladakh, but his arrest has put an end to this idea. I hear P.C. has been trying to persuade him to make a false confession and betray the Munshi. I have not yet heard what has been the result of their consultation. One man turned round on Zodpa and betrayed him in order to get free. He made two statements, the second having been made when he was frightened by the police. He then told Z that he was sorry he had let him down, for he knew his second statement was a false one. Zodpa's position is pitiable at present, and he will need all the money he can get to employ pleaders to defend him. Though he is a ~~very~~ rogue of the first water, I think in this particular case he is telling the truth, for the rumour of the murder is too widespread to be incredible."

Apropos the furniture, I can only say that the furniture I have seen about looks uncommonly like that belonging to the Roerichs, but if you sent me an inventory of this furniture I could soon check it, as I shall have to act for Zodpa if he has to go to Dharmsala or elsewhere."

It looks as if between them they have made rather a mess of things in Lahul, and I don't envy Mr Asboe! I don't know why he wants to bail out Z, unless it is because he belongs to the Mission. I should be inclined to let him stew in his own juice. It looks to me as if the Munshi and Z had been making a tool of Mr Asboe in their scheme for getting rid of the Thakurs and

probably in order to get greater power themselves. Anyhow, I am afraid P.C's position will be more firmly consolidated than ever after this.

I hope Mme de Roerich is feeling better

With our heartiest greetings to you all

Yours very sincerely

William

5
Manali
13th July 1935

Dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of yesterday's date. By the same post I received the enclosed letter from Zodpa.

In your letter of July 4th it was not quite clear whether the money is due to Zodpa now or whether it would be due at the end of the summer.

If you are not likely to want the house again I see no reason why you should pay the money. On the other hand if you wish to retain a lien on the house I think you could safely pay the money. In which case I can pay him, if you like, and take his receipt for it, and you can repay me at your convenience. I would inform Mr Asboe of the payment so that in the event of the house being sold in order to pay any fine that may be inflicted on Z, the sum might be refunded to you.

If the money is not due until the end of the season it would be better not to pay until you see how the case goes. It is true that Z needs the money now, but that is his affair and not yours, and so far as I know he has no claim on your kindness.

With regard to the land, I don't suppose it will make any difference whether it is two plots or one. However, I will mention the point to Mr Gotley.

With our heartiest greetings to you all

Yours very sincerely

J. H. H. H.

6

Manali
4th August 1935

Dear Mr. Roerich,

I will write to Mr. Asboe today about the seeds and let you know the result.

I had a letter from him yesterday in which he said, referring to the Munshi and Zodpa, "You will probably hear of their presence in Kulu at the present moment." I have not heard anything of them so far and I still have the Rs50/- for Zodpa. Perhaps he has been up to you in the hope of getting more.

I am glad the Forest Dept. are making no bother about the upper plot, at any rate, and perhaps the difficulty about the lower plot may be overcome.

I sincerely hope the stars will be favourable on the 7th. Perhaps the Judge will think the case has been going on long enough.

The only local news is that Henry Banon has taken unto himself a second wife, the said wife being already a niece of the first wife and, moreover, married to a man who is said to have syphilis. The girl has been Henry Banon's girl friend for the last two or three years.

They say it is considered to be a disgraceful thing to marry your wife's niece - a form of incest - . It is news to me that anything can be considered disgraceful in Manali!

With our heartiest greetings to Mme de Roerich and yourself

Yours very sincerely

J. H. Munshi



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G.

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Munich

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TO

Recd. here at

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M.

Rumich Naffar

Apply principal Punjab agricultural College
 Lyallpur for Botanist Stof. This
 College is now open Malon

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SIMLA 17 Sept. 15.50 Express

Red Nagga Sept. 17 1935. 17.4

ROERICH NAGGAR

Everything satisfactory. Have informed Peiping . Mahon .

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Nedou's Hotel
Lahore
15th January 1936

Dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of January 11th, and the Income-Tax form which I am returning herewith. My solicitor friend does not know much about Income Tax but I showed the form to the Manager of the National Bank of India, who has a considerable connection with America. He gave it as his opinion that if one was not a citizen of America, nor had been residing in America during the period for which the return is required, there was no necessity to furnish a return or pay the tax.

If you are a naturalized American you count as a citizen, and in that case are required to furnish the return.

It might be a good thing to refer this paper of instructions to the American Consul.

It is quite clear that if one is a non-resident, non-citizen, living abroad, you are not liable to file returns.

Still no news from the New York front. Perhaps, like the Italians, they are having trouble among themselves!

With all best wishes from us both to you all

Yours very sincerely

W. H. Miller

10

Nedou's Hotel
Lahore
20th January 1936

My dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of the 16th, received yesterday.

I will speak to Mr Gotley again about the land. I will also ask the Chief Secretary if anything can be done to hurry matters up. I hope to have a talk with him about Burke as soon as I get rid of the 'Flu.

I have made enquiries about a surgeon in Delhi and am told that Colonel Paton, the Civil Surgeon, is very good.

I enclose a letter from Mr Rutter, received today. Will you please ask Professor de Roerich to let me have his instructions. I think if he wishes me to write to Mr ²Mason it might be as well if I could give him some idea of the number and approximate size of the pictures, the probable date and duration of the exhibition.

I was glad to hear you were enjoying lovely weather. Here the nights are very cold.

We are dreading to hear of the death of the King. From rather selfish reasons, I'm afraid! It will be very dull both in Lahore and Delhi if all entertainments are stopped, and we also do not want to have the expense of getting black clothes. If only he can postpone his demise until we return to Kulu it would suit us much better! I don't suppose the poor man wants to live any longer himself.

I wonder what the lull on the New York front portends!

With all best wishes to you all from us both

Yours very sincerely

J. N. Mason

11
Manali
23rd April 1936

My dear Mr. Roerich,

You will see from the enclosed letter how double-faced Burke is. He is certainly not out to help. I understood from Mr. Gotley that it was Burke's own suggestion that you should apply for Nautor land and that in this way all difficulties would be overcome.

I would advise you to act on paras 1 & 2 of his letter, then if nothing happens we can put the matter before the Commissioner when he comes here in June.

We cannot go over Burke's head at the present stage. Any higher official would refer it back to Burke as it is in his district. Only when we are able to show that Burke has failed us will any higher official intervene.

With regard to para 4, that is a matter for you to decide. Burke is within his rights in demanding a power of attorney. He can, and obviously intends to, refuse to have anything to do with me unless a power of attorney is produced.

You might be able to do some good if you were to have a talk with him, but he will promise anything verbally and do nothing.

I am very sorry there is all this trouble about the land. I am sure we can get it eventually but the trouble is to get it in time. If the Commissioner fails us I could appeal to the Minister for Agriculture, but by that time the planting out season would be over.

I would like to have Burke's letter back when you have finished with it. I would like to discuss the matter with Mr Glover when he comes up. He may be able to make some useful suggestions.

If you had a talk with Burke you might be able to persuade him to instruct the Patwari to get on with the business of making the map of the site pending your formal application.

I am afraid that is all I can suggest at present.

With our heartiest greetings to you all

Yours very sincerely

J. M. Mahan

12 (116) 1
Manali
22nd June 1936

My dear Mr. Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of the 20th. I thought as time was so short I had better act at once so sent the enclosed letter to the Chief Conservator and a copy to the Commissioner asking if he could do anything to help. Of course it is quite easy to drop it now if you want to. There is just an outside chance that they may act in time, but should they fail to do so and you still wanted to have the land for next season I could take the matter up to higher authorities. I have no doubt that it could be got in the end.

I am quite sure that when Mr Gotley assured you that he could give you the plot at any time, he quite believed he could. In fact he told me the other day he never anticipated this happening.

Any Department of the Government of India is extremely difficult. For months I have been trying to get the Manali Hospital handed over to the Kangra Mission. With difficulty I had a Deed of Transfer registered in Kulu, but so far the mutation has not been done, and until that is completed I can't get rid of the Hospital. I have written to the Chief Justice about the case.

I am glad to say my knee is slightly better but so far I have not attempted to walk beyond what we call our garden.

We seem to be having quite a good little monsoon, it has made it nice and cool here.

With all good wishes from us both

Yours very sincerely

William

13
1
n/22
Manali
29th June 1936

My dear Mr. Roerich,

I enclose a letter which I received from the Chief Conservator yesterday. I am afraid that it means there is no chance of obtaining the land this year. If he had had the decency to write and say that owing to a change of policy they were very sorry they were now unable to let you have the land and much regretted the inconvenience and loss to which you had been put, there would have been nothing more I could say to him, but considering his extremely inhuman and curt letter I couldn't resist having a final slap at him.

If you would still care to have the land next year I will be very glad to fight for it. I could write a strong letter to the Minister for Agriculture, and if he failed me I would have it put up in the Punjab Council, which would probably have the desired effect, but there still remains the Legislative Assembly and after that the Viceroy!

I will be very glad to fight it because I think it is a good thing to let the local officials know we are not easily squashed. On the other hand if you are not prepared to accept the land when, and if, it is eventually offered, it would prejudice unfavourably any future similar case we might have.

I enclose a copy of my letter to the Chief Conservator for you. I will be glad if you will let me have Mr Parker's letter back for my file when you have finished with it.

Will you please thank Mr. Georges for his letter of the 28th and tell him I will write to him tomorrow. I hope that I will have received the English Mail in the meantime and perhaps it may contain something of interest.

I am glad to say that my knee feels more comfortable and feels no worse for a very short walk which I took yesterday.

Pluviose appears to have arrived accompanied with a certain amount of snow, this is unusual.

I hope you are all well and that Mme de Roerich has no pain in her knee. I should be very sorry to think that my pain had gone to her.

With heartiest greetings to you all from us both

Yours very sincerely

M. Mahan

14

COLONEL A.E. MARON.
MANALI,
KULU,
PUNJAB.

6th January 1938

My dear Mr Roerich,

Many thanks for your letter of the 4th, which I received this morning. I do not know why it has taken two days to come. I enclose the envelope in case you may care to refer the matter to your Postmaster.

I enclose the letter for Abdul Rashid to take to the Recruiting Officer, Lahore, and hope he will get what he wants. I am afraid a "Y-cadetship" is something new to me, and I am not sure whether the military recruiting officer does any recruiting for the Air Force, but if he doesn't he will be able to pass him on to the right man. I know he does the recruiting for the Mechanical Transport. I suppose the sight of Mr Shibayev's Aircraft Factory has fired the lad with more lofty ambitions!

I do not know when you will receive this letter because on top of the five feet of snow which we already have on the ground here we are now having a real blizzard. Probably the mail will not be able to leave this afternoon.

Unfortunately only the bill for our snowshoes has so far arrived. I sincerely hope they will turn up before long for my morning walks at present are confined to about one mile of rather difficult walking in tracks that the coolies have made.

I have been employing a small labour corps for the last two or three days to remove some of the snow round the bungalow. The view

from our windows reminds one of the London Underground - nothing but white walls. We are indeed thankful to have one upper room.

I quite agree with Bernard Shaw's denomination of this ~~planate~~ planet. I see Winston Churchill has given rather a good description of Bernard Shaw in his latest book.

I'm afraid I missed the statement in "The Statesman" about the "sixty families" that are to be deported from America. I wonder if the Horches are among the sixty! I am sure they ought to be.

I hope Dr Georges received my letter of the 31st and Prof. de Roerich the magazine which I sent him yesterday.

My wife wishes me to ask you to tell Mme de Roerich that she intended to send back the Ms. of "AGNI YOGA" today, but owing to the Blizzard referred to above she will keep it until a finer day in case anything should happen to it in the post.

The man is waiting to take this down to the post now so I must hurry.

With all best wishes from us both to you all

Yours very sincerely

C. M. Lohman