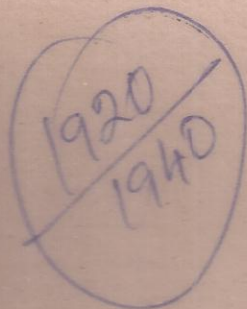


1940
GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
TRIBAL—A

June

Nos. 535-626

Indo-Tibetan Frontier Expedition to Towang



IV

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II.—Not printed

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1940
GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
TRIBAL—A
JUNE

Nos.535-626

Indo-Tibetan Frontier Expedition to Towang

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		No.584.—From the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.236/Twg., dated the 3rd June 1938.
		No.585.—Telegram to Rai Bahadur Norbhu Dhondup, No.405-C.B., dated the 7th June 1938.
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No.589.—Telegram to Rai Bahadur Norbhu Dhondup, No.426-C.B., dated the 16th June 1938.

No.590.—Memorandum from the Inspector-General of Police, Assam, No.F.8886, dated the 13th June 1938.

No.592.—Enclosure.

No.592.—Demi-official from the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.242/Twg., dated the 16th June 1938.

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No.599.—Telegram to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, No.466-C.B., dated the 5th July 1938.

No.600.—To the Government of India, External Affairs Department, No.2967-G.S., dated the 5th July 1938.

No.601.—Memorandum to the Political Officer, Sikkim, and Rai Bahadur Norbhu Dhondup, No.2968-69-G.S., dated the 5th July 1938.

No.602.—To the Government of India, External Affairs Department, No.2993-G.S., dated the 7th July 1938.

No.603.—From the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.247/Twg., dated the 6th July 1938.

No.604.—Telegram from the Government of India, External Affairs Department, No.1107, dated the 7th July 1938.

No.605.—Memorandum from the Inspector-General of Police, Assam, No.F.10017, dated the 2nd July 1938.

No.606.—Enclosure.

No.607.—Demi-official from the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.248/Twg., dated the 7th July 1938.

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	No.609.—From the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.249/Twg., dated the 9th July 1938.
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	No.612.—To the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, No.3088-G.S., dated the 15th July 1938.
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TRIBAL—A, JUNE 1940

Nos.535-626

Indo-Tibetan Frontier Expedition to Towang

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.224-TWG., DATED THE 20TH APRIL 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.225-TWG., DATED THE 26TH APRIL 1938.

Secretary.

For information.

Satish—27th April 1938.

J. N. Dutt—27th April 1938.

His Excellency,

For perusal. All is going well.

I will enquire what officials are referred to.

27th April 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

28th April 1938.

R. N. R[END].

Draft below.

28th April 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2136-G.S., DATED THE 29TH APRIL 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY, No.2180-G.S., DATED THE 2ND MAY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.226-TWG., DATED THE 2ND MAY 1938.

Secretary,

For information.

Satish—4th May 1938.

His Excellency,

A draft is submitted for favour of approval. I have worded it rather strongly, as, in the absence of precise and firm orders from the Government of India, Captain Lightfoot is placed in a very difficult position indeed.

4th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Issue. [Then please see about reorganizing this unwieldy file.]

4th May 1938.

R. N. R[END].

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, SIKKIM, No.898, DATED THE 4TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, SIKKIM, No.899, DATED THE 4TH MAY 1938.

His Excellency,

This file has just reached me. In view of the telegrams received today, I beg to suggest that an addition at the end of the draft might be made, reading "particularly in view of the attitude of the Tibetan Government indicated in Mr. Gould's telegrams....., which have just been received."

5th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

[The file will be re-organized the moment this letter has been despatched].

5th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

I have added a paragraph—Issue.

5th May 1938.

R. N. R[END].

As regards Political Agent, Sikkim's telegrams (below)—

(i) I would wire India giving very briefly gist of Captain Lightfoot's report, and saying we have written on the same subject and asked for definite instructions.

(ii) Also write as proposed to Captain Lightfoot and give him the facts contained in the two telegrams. Say that we have asked for instructions, and say that he should bear in mind the possibility of having to stay there or leave a party there for a longer period than was originally contemplated.

5th May 1938.

Drafts below for issue.

6th May 1938.

R. N. R[EID].

J. P. MILLS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
No.2256-G.S., DATED THE 6TH MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO MR. B. J. GOULD, POLITICAL OFFICER, SIKKIM, No.2261-G.S., DATED THE 6TH
MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, No.2262-G.S., DATED THE 6TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.306-C.B., DATED
THE 6TH MAY 1938.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE HOME DEPARTMENT, No.3297-99-H., DATED THE 4TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Copy may be forwarded to Political Officer, Balipara. A draft for approval.

Satish—6th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—6th May 1938.

6th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2274-G.S., DATED THE
9TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM MR. B. J. GOULD, No.988, DATED THE 10TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Two drafts for approval.

Satish—10th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—10th May 1938.

Send Norbhu's letter registered. Presumably he is still at Lhasa. Can we use service stamps for Tibet? If in doubt enquire at Political Officer's. Another draft added.

11th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO MR. B. J. GOULD, No.2318-G.S., DATED THE 11TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM TO MR. B. J. GOULD, No.2319-G.S., DATED THE 11TH MAY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.229/TWG., DATED THE 10TH
MAY 1938.

Secretary.

For perusal.

Satish—12th May 1938.

His Excellency,

Perusal. A satisfactory report.

12th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Yes, I think Governor's Secretary might well to send a copy to Private Secretary to Viceroy.

12th May 1938.

R. N. R[EID].

Copies for Private Secretary to Viceroy, Political Officer, Sikkim and Norbhu, please.

14th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Secretary,

Two drafts for approval.

Satish—17th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—17th May 1938.

17th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Inspector-General of Police unofficially,

Submitted for perusal.

17th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TELEGRAM FROM MR. B. J. GOULD, POLITICAL OFFICER, SIKKIM, No.1007, DATED THE 16TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.818, DATED THE 16TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Political Officer Sikkim's telegram—For information.

Government of India's telegram—For orders.

Satish—17th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—17th May 1938.

His Excellency,

The Political Officer may be informed of the orders.

17th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Yes. By wire.

17th May 1938.

R. N. R[EID].

Draft wire below. Please draft demi-officially.

18th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TELEGRAM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2389-G.S., DATED THE 18TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders above. A draft for approval.

Satish—18th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—18th May 1938.

18th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TO THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, No.2383-G.S., DATED THE 17TH MAY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, SIKKIM, AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.2384-85-G.S., DATED THE 17TH MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, No.2401-G.S., DATED THE 19TH MAY 1938.

Governor's Secretary,

Seen. Many thanks.

20th May 1938.

R. C. R. CUMMING.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.230/TWG., DATED THE 18TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.388, DATED THE 19TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

For information.

Satish—21st May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—21st May 1938.

His Excellency,

For information. I will inform Political Officer of the substance of Rai Bahadur Norbhu's telegram.

23rd May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

23rd May 1938.

R. N. R[EID].

Draft demi-official to Political Officer, please.

24th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

FROM THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, ASSAM, NO. F.-7689, DATED THE 19TH MAY 1938.
DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT,
No.231/C/TWG., DATED THE 23RD MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders dated the 24th May 1938. A draft for approval.

Political Officer, Balipara's demi-official No.231/C/TWG., dated the 23rd May 1938:—
For orders.

Satish—25th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—25th May 1938.

Issue draft and put up again.

25th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Secretary,

Resubmitted.

Satish—25th May 1938.

His Excellency,

Political Officer's action in reducing his force in order to permit of a longer stay may be approved and he may be told that he will not be ordered to return before the date given in his revised programme. Regarding the keeping of an officer up at Towang, I will consult Inspector-General of Police. I understand Major Brown is going on leave.

25th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

All right as regards the revised arrangements. But was it ever intended to keep an officer at Towang?

25th May 1938.

R. N. R[EID].

Draft demi-official to Political Officer, please, saying that the revised arrangements are approved and that the question of keeping an officer at Towang will be examined.

Copies of our demi-official and of Inspector-General of Police's letter No. F.-7689, dated the 19th May 1938 and revised programme to Political Officer in Sikkim and Rai Bahadur Norbhu for information.

Then put up again.

26th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT,
No.2467-G.S., DATED THE 26TH MAY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.233/TWG., DATED THE 24TH MAY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.234/TWG., DATED THE 24TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM MR. B. J. GOULD, POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM, No.1132, DATED THE 26TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders dated the 26th May 1938. A draft for approval.

A copy of the revised tour programme may also be sent to Government of India, as was done previously. A draft for approval.

Satish—26th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—26th May 1938.

Draft to Political Officer may issue. Draft to India should refer to them by wire and we should also send copies of reports 4 and 5 for information. Copies of report 5 to Political Officer, Sikkim and Rai Bahadur Norbhu.

26th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Secretary,

Two drafts for approval.

Satish—27th May 1938.

J. N. Dutt—27th May 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.398, DATED THE 25TH MAY 1938.

His Excellency,

We shall have to await instructions from India, but it seems clear that Tibet have forced an issue. Any effective action is likely to entail the keeping of a post up there. I may consult Political Officer at once as to size and cost, in order that if an estimate is called for we may send it in without delay and have time to push rations up before the winter.

I will inform Political Officer of Norbhu's views and attitude of Tibet.

27th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

As proposed. India won't like the idea of a permanent post !

27th May 1938.

R. N. R[ED].

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT,
No.2492-G.S., DATED THE 28TH MAY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP,
No.2493-94-G.S., DATED THE 28TH MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT,
No.2498-G.S., DATED THE 28TH MAY 1938.

Inspector-General of Police, unofficially,

Perusal. You last saw on the 20th May 1938. We may find ourselves heavily committed.

30th May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Governor's Secretary,

Seen and returned with thanks. Even if we are committed to more or less continuous occupation of this district, I do not like the idea of a post as far out as Towang.

The lines of communication are not too well secured from either human or natural interruption (the last two or three marches down to the plains are bound to be troublesome once the rains set in) and the ration problem will ever be uppermost.

1st June 1938.

R. C. R. CUMMING.

His Excellency,

Inspector-General of Police's note, dated the 1st June 1938 may be seen. If a post has to be left out the problem of where it should be will require careful consideration.

1st June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

After looking at India's wire of 16th May, No.818 again, I think it would be as well to write further to Captain Lightfoot and emphasise that the orders to him in our No.2498 of 28th May are purely precautionary and that, until modified, India's orders that no action is to be taken which would commit them to permanent occupation and further expenditure and that future policy can only be decided after the expedition has returned still hold the field. We have to be careful about this.

1st June 1938.

R. N. R[ED].

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.2506-G.S., DATED THE 30TH MAY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP,
No.2507-8-G.S., DATED THE 30TH MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO MR. GOULD, POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM, No.2525-G.S., DATED THE 31ST MAY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.2526-G.S., DATED THE 31ST MAY 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO CAPTAIN G. S. LIGHTFOOT, POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT,
No.2549-G.S., DATED THE 3RD JUNE 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.402, DATED THE 30TH MAY 1938.

Secretary,

For information.

Satish—31st May 1938.

31st May 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, TO RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.875, DATED THE 28TH MAY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM B. J. GOULD, POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM, No.5044, DATED THE 1ST JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

Captain Lightfoot's revised tour programme has been sent to Norbhu, Political Officer in Sikkim and to Government of India.

Satish—3rd June 1938.

His Excellency,

Political Officer's demi-official of 23rd May 1938 may be seen. On our warning that he might have to stay longer he had to act at once or he would have run out of rations. Nor can he easily return surplus rations if ordered to return to Charduar before the date given in his revised programme.

Perhaps he may be told that his revised programme still holds good (since it commits us to nothing), but that India have made it clear that they will come to no decision at all till he has returned and submitted a detailed report, and that he must scrupulously refrain from committing them in any way or attempting to anticipate their policy.

3rd June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

This is all we can do—we were quite justified in making arrangements for a longer stay.

3rd June 1938.

R. N. R[ED].

Draft below to Political Officer. Copies to Norbhu for information and to Political Officer in Sikkim with reference to his telegram No.5044.

4th June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

DEMI-OFFICIAL TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2617-G.S., DATED THE 4TH JUNE 1938.

To RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHANDUP,
No.2618-19-G.S., DATED THE 4TH JUNE 1938.
THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM,

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.236/TWG., DATED THE 3RD JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

For information.

Satish—7th June 1938.

J. N. Dutt—7th June 1938.

His Excellency,

Perusal.

8th June 1938.

8th June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

R. N. R[ED].

TELEGRAM TO RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHANDUP, No.405-C.B., DATED THE 7TH JUNE 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.238/TWG., DATED THE 7TH JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

For information. As regards Political Officer's revised tour programme, Political Officer has already been informed that it has been approved by His Excellency.

Satish—10th June 1938.

J. N. Dutt—10th June 1938.

His Excellency,

Perusal.

10th June 1938.

10th June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

R. N. R[ED].

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.240/TWG., DATED THE 13TH JUNE 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.240/TWG., DATED THE 16TH JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

Political Officer, Balipara's letter, dated the 13th June 1938:—For information.

Telegram sent. No.426-C.B., 1938:—Rai Bahadur Norbhu may be informed.
of 16th June 1938. Political Officer, Balipara's telegram, dated the 16th June

A draft telegram for approval.

Satish—15th June 1938.

J. N. Dutt—16th June 1938.

His Excellency,
For information.
16th June 1938.
16th June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.
R. N. R[ED].

Inspector-General of Police, unofficially,
You last saw on the 1st June 1938. Subsequent correspondence is for information.
17th June 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Governor's Secretary, unofficially,
Seen.
22nd June 1938.

R. C. R. CUMMING.

DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.242/TWG., DATED THE 16TH JUNE 1938.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, ASSAM, No.F.-8886, DATED THE 13TH JUNE 1938.

DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.244/TWG., DATED THE 20TH JUNE 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.245/TWG., DATED THE 22ND JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

Inspector-General of Police's memorandum No.F.-8886, dated the 13th June 1938. Copy of the previous report of Major Brown was sent to Political Officer in Sikkim and Rai Bahadur Norbhu. A copy of the present report of Major Brown may also perhaps be sent to them. A draft for approval.

Satish—30th June 1938.

J. N. Dutt—30th June 1938.

His Excellency,

Submitted for perusal. I will send the requisite copies to India, Political Officer, Sikkim and Norbhu.

1st July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

2nd July 1938.

G. P. H[OGG].

Send copies to India and to Political Officer, Sikkim and Norbhu.

4th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

DEMI-OFFICIAL FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.246/TWG., DATED THE 30TH JUNE 1938.

Secretary,

Issue.—J. P. M.—4-7-1938. Orders above. Drafts for approval. Political Officer, Balipara's demi-official No.246/Twg., dated the 30th June 1938 :—

For orders.

Satish—4th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—4th July 1938.

His Excellency,

For favour of perusal. I will send a copy to India and ask for instructions when necessary and will also send Political Officer, Sikkim warning by telegram regarding the action Tibet propose to take vis-a-vis Bantani.

4th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

As proposed.

The situation seems to become more implored and perplexing.

4th July 1938.

G. P. H[OGG].

I have altered draft to India and am sending more reports. Have Political Officer, Sikkim and Norbhu got copies of all important reports up to date ?

I have sent a wire to India and C. B. to be encoded. Get these letters off and I will then send copy of demi-official of 19th instant covering letter to India.

5th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.466-C.B., DATED THE 5TH JULY 1938.

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.2967-G.S., DATED THE 5TH JULY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, IN SIKKIM AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.2968-69-G.S., DATED THE 5TH JULY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders above. Resubmitted.

Copies of reports Nos.1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9 have been sent to Political Officer, Sikkim and Rai Bahadur Norbhu. Copies of reports Nos.6, 7 and 8 have not been sent to them. These do not seem to be very important. Government of India have been supplied with copies of report Nos.4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Satish—6th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—6th July 1938.

Draft to India below. Clean copy for file please.

Copies of reports 6, 7 and 8 should go to Political Officer, Sikkim and Norbhu for information.

6th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.2993-G.S., DATED THE 7TH JULY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.247/TWG., DATED THE 6TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, No.1107, DATED THE 7TH JULY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders above. A draft for approval.

Captain Lightfoot and Major Brown may perhaps be allowed to purchase the articles presented by the Monastery and credit the price, Rs.89, into the Treasury.

The grant of licenses to the Monastery officials for rifles and revolvers may perhaps wait till Government of India pass orders as to the policy to be adopted in regard to Towang.

Satish—8th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—8th July 1938.

His Excellency,

The presents may be bought in as proposed.

Government of India's telegram No.1107, dated the 7th July 1938. This indicates a welcome stiffening in the attitude of Government of India.

8th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

8th July 1938.

G. P. H[ogg].

Issue draft put up, and a draft on Political Officer's letter of the 6th July 1938.

9th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, ASSAM, No.F.-10017, DATED THE 2ND JULY 1938.

FROM CAPTAIN LIGHTFOOT, DEMI-OFFICIAL No.248/TWG., DATED THE 7TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM MR. GOULD, No.1316, DATED THE 11TH JULY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA, No.249/TWG., DATED THE 9TH JULY 1938.

Secretary,

Orders dated the 9th July 1938. A draft for approval.

Copy of Inspector-General of Police's memorandum No.F.-10017, dated the 2nd July 1938 and its enclosure may be forwarded to Political Officer, Sikkim and Rai Bahadur Norbhu. Previous reports from Major Brown were also sent to them. A draft for approval.

Political Officer's demi-official No.248/TWG., dated the 7th July 1938 and telegram, dated the 11th July 1938. For information.

Political Officer's letter No.249/TWG., dated the 9th July 1938:

In this connection correspondence at pages 20, 23-31, 35 and 36-37 of correspondence in Tribal, B, June 1938, Nos.35-50 may be seen.

Satish—11th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—11th July 1938.

His Excellency,

Orders are solicited on Political Officer's letter of the 9th July 1938. As the Akas are reported to be contemplating immediate action, I do not think we can avoid giving the *ad interim* orders asked for by Political Officer. The Monbas are identical with the Shercludpas and Sherdulapan. The area is a long way south of the Tibetan Frontier and Tibet does not come into the picture. If His Excellency agrees I will wire Political Officer that his proposals are approved.

12th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

As proposed. But there should be no definite understaking that there will be an expedition next year.

12th July 1938.

G. P. H[ogg].

Draft below.

12th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDHUP, No.3059-60-G.S., DATED THE 11TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.3068-G.S., DATED THE 12TH JULY 1938.

TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.3088 G.S., DATED THE 15TH JULY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMPTROLLER, ASSAM, No.3089-G.S., DATED THE 15TH JULY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER IN SIKKIM AND RAI BAHADUR NORBHU DHONDUP, No.3090-91-G.S., DATED THE 15TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2626, DATED THE 18TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA, FRONTIER TRACT, No.2636, DATED THE 18TH JULY 1938.

Secretary,

For information.

Satish—18th July 1938.

His Excellency,

For information.

18th July 1938.

18th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

G. P. H[ogg].

TELEGRAM FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2658, DATED THE 19TH JULY 1938.

TELEGRAM TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.3233-G.S., DATED THE 19TH JULY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2721/IV-5, DATED THE 21ST JULY 1938.

FROM THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.2736/XI-13, DATED THE 23RD JULY 1938.

Secretary,

Two drafts for approval. These may issue with concurrence of Finance Secretary.

Satish—27th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—27th July 1938.

Secretary, Finance,

Will you please concur. Awful weather up at that height made it quite impossible for any one to move.

28th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Chief Secretary,

Finance concur.

29th July 1938.

A. G. PATTON.

Issue. Has not Political Officer made a similar application for his own halts.

29th July 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

Secretary,

Secretary's enquiry above. Political Officer's application has been put up in his tour diary file which has been sent to Finance to-day for concurrence.

Satish—30th July 1938.

J. N. Dutt—30th July 1938.

5th August 1938.

J. P. MILLS.

TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.3372-G.S., DATED THE 30TH JULY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMPTROLLER, ASSAM, No.3373-G.S., DATED THE 30TH JULY 1938.

TO THE POLITICAL OFFICER, BALIPARA FRONTIER TRACT, No.3374-G.S., DATED THE 30TH JULY 1938.

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMPTROLLER, ASSAM, No.3375-G.S., DATED THE 30TH JULY 1938.

17

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT PROCEEDINGS

TRIBAL—A JUNE 1940

Indo-Tibetan frontier Expedition to Towang

No.535.

No.224/Twg., dated Camp Shergaon, the 20th April 1938.

From—G. S. LIGHTFOOT ESQ, I. P., Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract,

To—The Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam.

I have the honour to report that the Towang colum left Gabru camp on 12th April 1938 and after an uneventful march reached Shergaon on 16th April 1938.

The first two days' march were very hot and told rather severely on some labourers of the P. L. Corps. As a result there were rather too many cases of sickness.

In Shergaon I was able to weed out 27 labourers who were unfit to carry, and I was able to replace them with Akas who have been working for us for some time carrying and dumping rations. This action should solve the sickness problem.

I received a visit from Wangiya, the chief of Shergaon. These villagers have just returned here from their winter camp at Doimara in the foot-hills where they go every year.

At present I have nothing of any interest to report except that all is well with the column and that a report has been received that all ration dumping is complete. In this respect I would like to point out that my Tibetan Interpreter, Mr. A. T. La has carried out a work of no little magnitude and I propose to bring his name before Government at the conclusion of the column.

His Excellency's message of good wishes was read out to all ranks of the column before the start from Gabru.

No.536.

Report No.2

No.225/Twg., dated Camp Dirang Dzong the 22nd and 26th April 1938.

From—G. S. LIGHTFOOT, Esq., I. P., Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract,

To—The Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam.

I have the honour to submit a further report on the progress of the Towang column.

We have now reached Dirang Dzong (Sheet 83A, sq. V 7,0.) where we have been halted for two days to give the carriers a rest.

The journey up to date has been quite uneventful, and the marches excepting that from Phutang to Dirang, have been both short and easy. There has been rather a lot of sickness among the labourers and a further 12 men are being returned to Charduar to-morrow. I am employing about 15 Monbas from here to Towang and no difficulty will be experienced for any shortage of labour.

The camp here is a good one but a continual gale has been blowing since we arrived and as a result the dust has been troublesome. Flies are also bad here.

Shortly after our arrival here yesterday, I received calls from all the local notables. The first to arrive was the Chanzu from Lih (sq V 4, 1). He is appointed by the monastery at Towang his chief duties are to collect grain for the monastery and to pay for it at a rate much under the current market rate. He was originally one of the Dzongpons who came to the plains to take Posa from us and is well known to me. He had nothing of any interest to say.

The next to arrive were the two Dzongpons of Dirang and the two of Kalak-tang (sq. G. 7, 7.) who happen to be staying here.

They also gave no information of any value.

In the afternoon I spent some hours paying out local villagers their dues for carrying our rations.

To-day I spent some time in discussing matters with the hedmen of Dirang and Sangti (sq. V7, 4.) They complained bitterly of the depredations of their neighbours, the Miji Akas. I was able to get details of the amounts paid by them and was actually surprised at the smallness of the amount. They also pay taxes to many other persons and have to supply free labour to any official who comes into the neighbourhood.

In the forenoon I and Maj. Brown paid a visit to the Dzong in Dirang where we were regaled on liquor of dubious origin and Thibetan tea made with butter and salt.

Information has been received that practically all our rations have reached Sengedzong (square U 7, 9.) and as matter of fact must have reached Jang by now.

The column marches off to-morrow morning and the next report will be submitted from Towang.

No.537.

No.2136-G.S., dated Shillong, the 29th April 1938.

From—J. P. MILLS ESQ., I.C.S., Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam,

To—The Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract.

I am directed to refer to your Report No.2, dated 22nd April 1938, and to say that it is not quite clear to what officials, Dirang and Sangti have to supply free labours.

No.538.

Report No.3

No.226/Twg., dated Camp Senge Dzong, the 26th April and 2nd May, 1938.

From—G. S. LIGHTFOOT ESQ., I.P., Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract,

To—The Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Assam, Shillong.

I have the honour to report that the column reached Senge Dzong on 24th April 1938, and halted here for two days, due to difficulty in sending forward our rations.

The delay was due to the representative of the Tsona Dzongpons being in Nyukmadong (sq. U 8,6.) where they were engaged in collecting taxes to be forwarded to the Thibetan Government. Their being there had stopped the local villagers from supplying us with coolies as the Dzongpons representative needed them all himself. I had to send down my Thibetan interpreter to the village and tell the representative that the needs of Government came first and that the village was to supply coolies to us. This was quite sufficient and coolies have arrived to-day. I am hoping that the column will not be delayed any more and that we shall be able to start off again to-morrow, when we shall have the worst march of the tour, as we have to cross the Se La at 14,200 feet.

I would like to point out that the purpose of our visit is largely being nullified by the presence of Thibetan officials collecting taxes actually in our presence. It seems to me, that, whatever is the result of this tour, the Thibetan Government will have to be moved to recall their tax collectiong officials eventually, and I am strongly of opinion that action should be taken at once.

I have been informed that all local officials, both Thibetan and Towang monasterial, have been annoyed at our employing so many coolies for our work and so interfering with their tax collecting, and the local villagers are all very frightened that these officials will take their revenge on them after our departure.

I can easily prevent Monastery officials from behaving in this way as we pay them Posa of 5,000 rupees and they can be dealt with by withholding part or all of this sum, and I am sure that they will not risk such action being taken. As regards the Thibetan officials, we have no hold on them whatever and it is quite

likely that they will fine the unfortunate villagers who have worked so well for us. I shall of course point out to them in Towang, that they should not take any such action, as the villagers were working under compulsion and so were not in any way to blame. In the event of villagers suffering from our visit, our prestige will suffer.

As far as is known, there are only two Thibetan officials in Towang, and they are known as the Tsona Dzungpons. One of these is a Thibetan official and the other, his assistant, is elected appointed for a period of 3 years only.

All available information on the Tsona Dzungpons is given in my Confidential letter No.23, dated 28th April 1936, addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government.

I am unable to give the names of the officials as yet.

So far as the column is concerned, all is well barring colds, we are having little sickness at present. Senge is very cold as it lies at a height of 10,000 feet and the weather has been bad.

Reports say that there is very little snow on the Se La at present.

No.539.

Telegram No.899, dated Yatung, the 4th May 1938.

From—Political Officer, Sikkim,

To—Secretary to Governor, Assam.

Tibetan Government called on me yesterday afternoon and said that they received joint report from Tsonaa Jongponn and Tawang monasteries that Lightfoot with about 200 troops and 600 coolies arrived Tawang. Tibetan Government enquired why expedition had come without notifying them and said they would issue order to stop expedition coming to Tawang. I replied that as Assam Government usually send their officers to tour round their frontier and as Tawang was ceded to the Government of India by virtue of 1914 Treaty Assam Government are sure to send officers to inspect country and that it is not advisable to stop expedition at this stage. Tibetan Government asked me to wire you to withdraw expedition. I told them that expedition will return only after touring round Tawang and it is no use to force expedition to go back. I however promised to wire you as they desired. At the same time I told them that I was glad that they raised question with me and that I would discuss it in two or three days time as I have treaty map with me.

I will now tackle question and do my best. Please arrange to maintain urgent communication with me while touring Bhutan and also please telegraph whether I should repeat all telegrams to Government of India.

No.540.

Telegram No.898, dated Yatung, the 6th May 1938.

From—Political Officer, Sikkim,

To—Secretary to Governor of Assam.

Addressed to Foreign repeated to Assam and Norbhu. My immediately following telegram is copy of telegram No.247, dated May 3rd from Norbhu.

2. Attitude of Tibetan Government even in face of overt action on our part indicates that it would have been useless to press them to concede in advance (of) acquiescence in our assumption of our treaty rights in Tawang area. Fact that Lightfoot has arrived in Tawang prior to protest is all to the good.

3. I presume Lightfoot's programme is capable of modification in accordance with requirements of actual situation. It will possibly prove to be desirable that his garrison should be maintained at Tawang until Tibetan Government adopt compliant attitude.

4. Norbhu should repeat all telegrams to the Government of India and also to Assam.

5. As at present arranged I am due to leave Yatung May 11th for Bhutan. Up to May 20th telegram will reach me within 36 hours and within about ten days during most of tour. If it is desired I will postpone tour but actually there seems little for Norbhu to do beyond insisting that we are acting within our rights and have no intention of abandoning them.

No. 541.

No.2256-G.S., dated Shillong, the 6th May 1938.

From—J. P. MILLS, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Governor of Assam,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India in the External Affairs Department, Simla.

SUBJECT :—INDO-TIBETAN FRONTIER.

In continuation of the correspondence resting with my telegram No.1401-G.S., dated the 26th March 1938 I am directed to forward for the information and orders of the Government of India a copy of a report dated Camp Senge Dzong 26th April 1938 from the Political Officer, Balipara Frontier Tract, together with, for ready reference, a copy of the relevant passage of his confidential letter No.23 of April 28th, 1936, to which reference is made.

2. His Excellency is of the opinion, subject to the views of the Government of India, that the situation is one which will not respond to any but the firmest treatment, and fears that, unless Tibetan officials cease finally to collect taxes on the Indian side of the International boundary and unless the local inhabitants can be confidently assured that they will suffer no retaliation for having assisted the Political Officer, the necessity of maintaining a permanent outpost at Towang must be envisaged. His Excellency therefore begs to suggest that not only should the Tibetan Government be asked by the Government of India to withdraw their officials to their side of the International Boundary without delay, but that the Political Officer should be authorised himself to inform those officials forthwith that they must leave India, and to inform the local inhabitants that they should in future refuse to pay any taxes to the Tibetan Government and to assure them they need fear no retaliation.

3. His Excellency would be glad if he could receive by wire the orders of the Government of India as to the attitude the Political Officer is to adopt towards the Tibetan officials on the one hand and the local inhabitants on the other that he may receive guidance in a difficult position at the earliest possible date. The incidents described in Captain Lightfoot's letters relate to his first contacts with Tibetan officials he has still a considerable distance to traverse and a considerable time will elapse before his mission is accomplished, and therefore the Governor feels that it is very necessary that Captain Lightfoot should be in possession of clear instructions as to the lines on which he should proceed.

4. The necessity of the instructions referred to in the preceding paragraphs is confirmed by the facts disclosed in Mr. Gould's telegrams Nos.898 and 899 of the 4th May addressed to Foreign Department, copies of which have just been received.

No.542.

D. O. No.2261-G.S., dated Shillong, the 6th May 1938.

From—J. P. MILLS, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Governor of Assam,

To—B. J. GOULD, Esq., C.M.G., C.I.E., Political Officer, Sikkim.

SUBJECT.—POLITICAL OFFICER YATUNG, SIKKIM.

Your telegrams Nos.898 and 899 of May 4th. I am asked to send your copies of Lightfoot's reports 1, 2, and 3, of which the last is particularly important. In order to keep you completely *an faith* with the course of events I am also to send you a copy of our letter No.2256-G-S., dated the 6th May 1938, to India, in which we asked for definite instruction. I am letting Lightfoot know the contents of your telegrams.

I am glad Lightfoot has firmly established himself up in Towang before things came to a head. The problem of protecting the local people after he has gone still remains.