

This PDF was generated on 11/12/2021 from online resources of  
the **Qatar Digital Library**

The online record can be viewed at:

[http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc\\_100000000241.0x0000c2](http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100000000241.0x0000c2)

It contains extra information, high resolution zoomable views and transcriptions.

### **‘File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft’**

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/R/15/2/291
<b>Date(s)</b>	16 Jan 1944-22 Jan 1944 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 file (5 folios)
<b>Copyright for document</b>	<u>Unknown</u>



#### **About this record**

The letter relates to an incident involving the accidental discharge of machine gun from an RAF plane at Muharraq. The incident was reported by Shaikh ‘Abdullāh bin ‘Īsā Āl Khalīfah to Charles Dalrymple Belgrave, Adviser to the Bahrain Government, who in turn reported the matter to the Political Agent, enclosing two of the discharged bullets (not included in the file) with his letter (folio 1B). A report of the incident is included in the file (folio 3), which is described as being an accident, not helped by the poor design of the gun’s safety catch.

'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [front]  
(1/16)

File No. 7/29  
19 .

Collection No. 1

IOR:R/15/2/291

Pros. Nos.  
Serial

Subject,  
Accidental Discharge of  
Machine Guns of  
R.A.F. Aircraft.

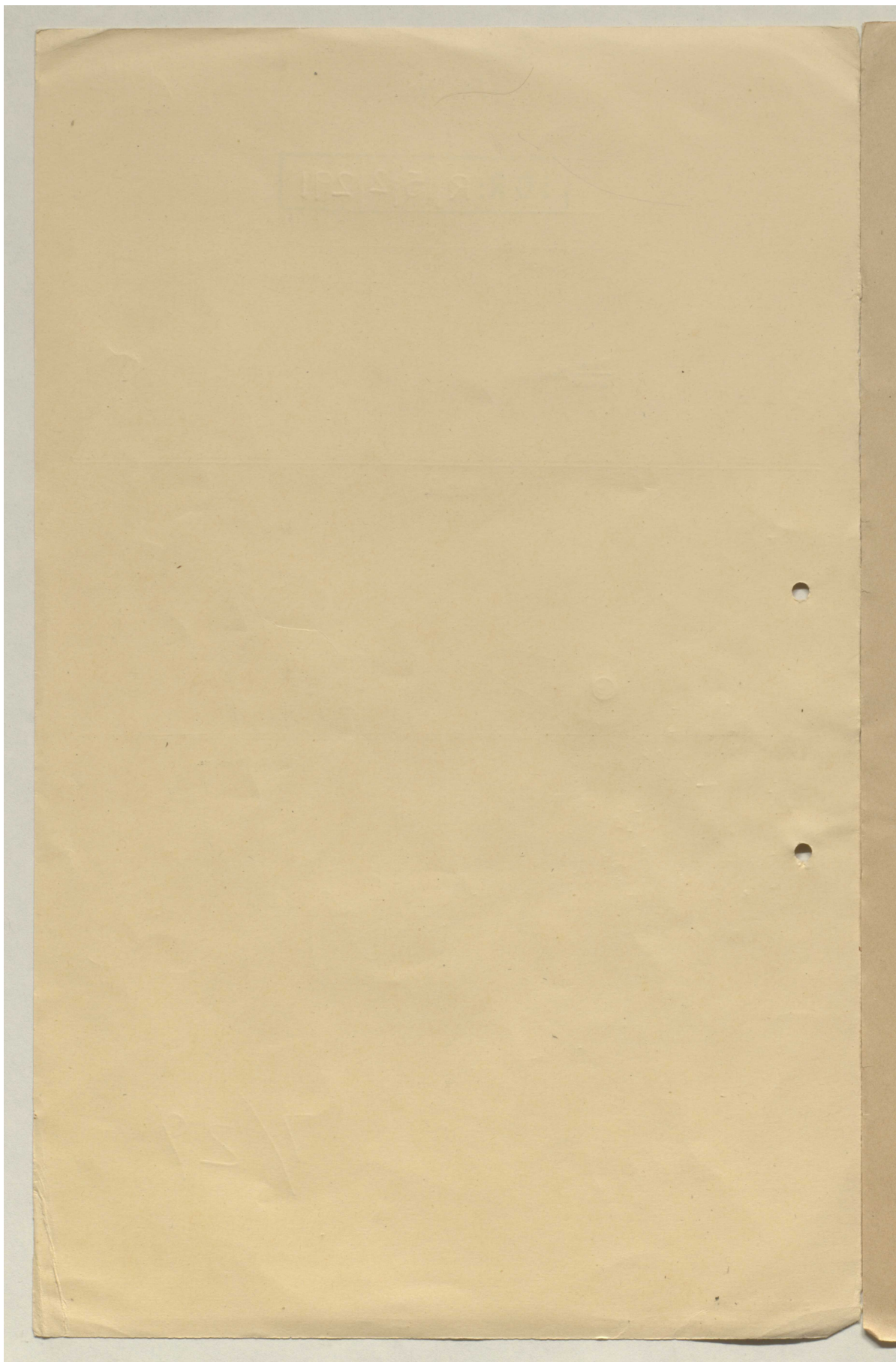
Previous References.

Later References.

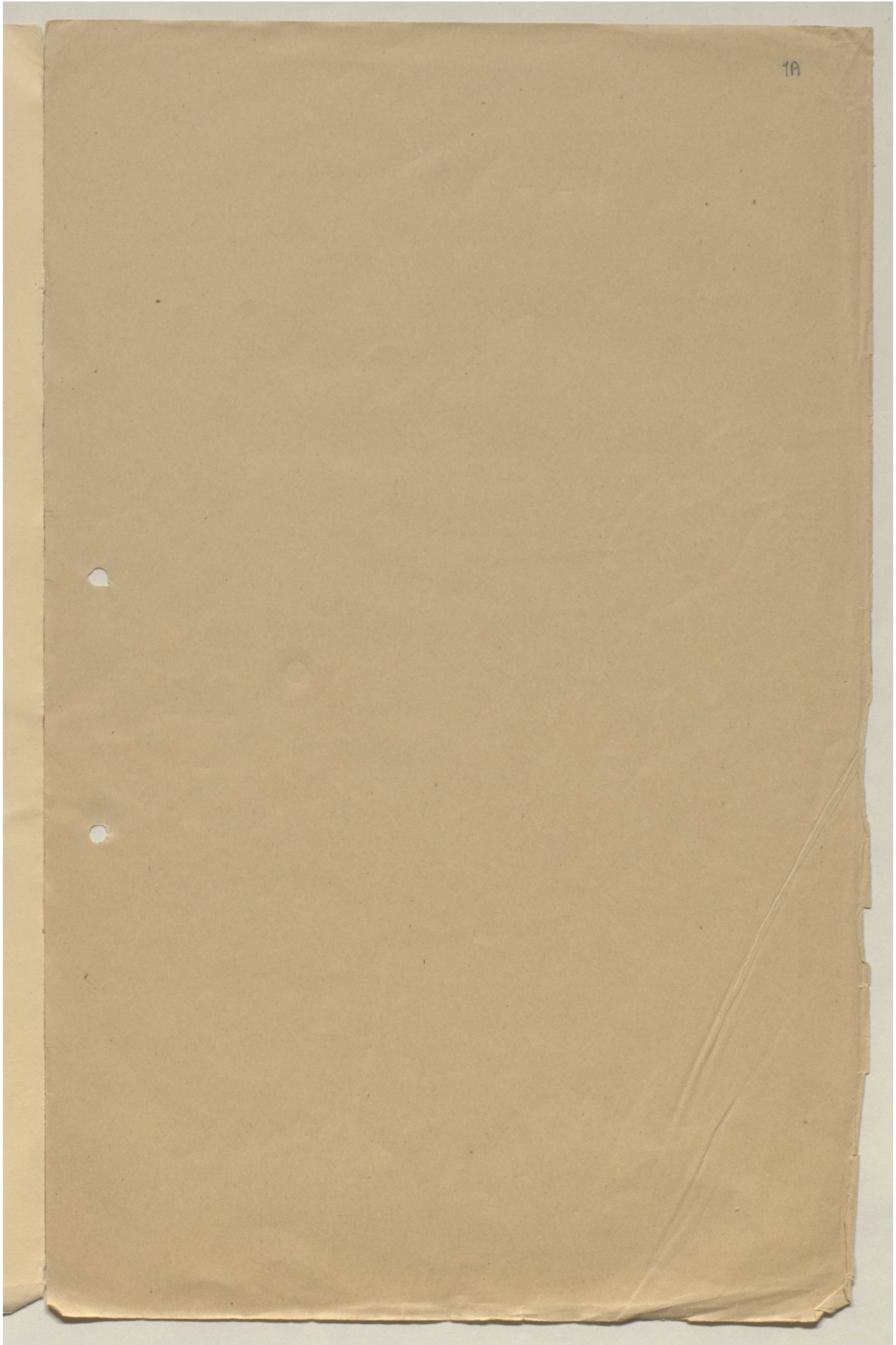
7/29

S. 97 (Unbleached.)  
R. P. - 6862.A-S113-19-2.42-1,00,000.

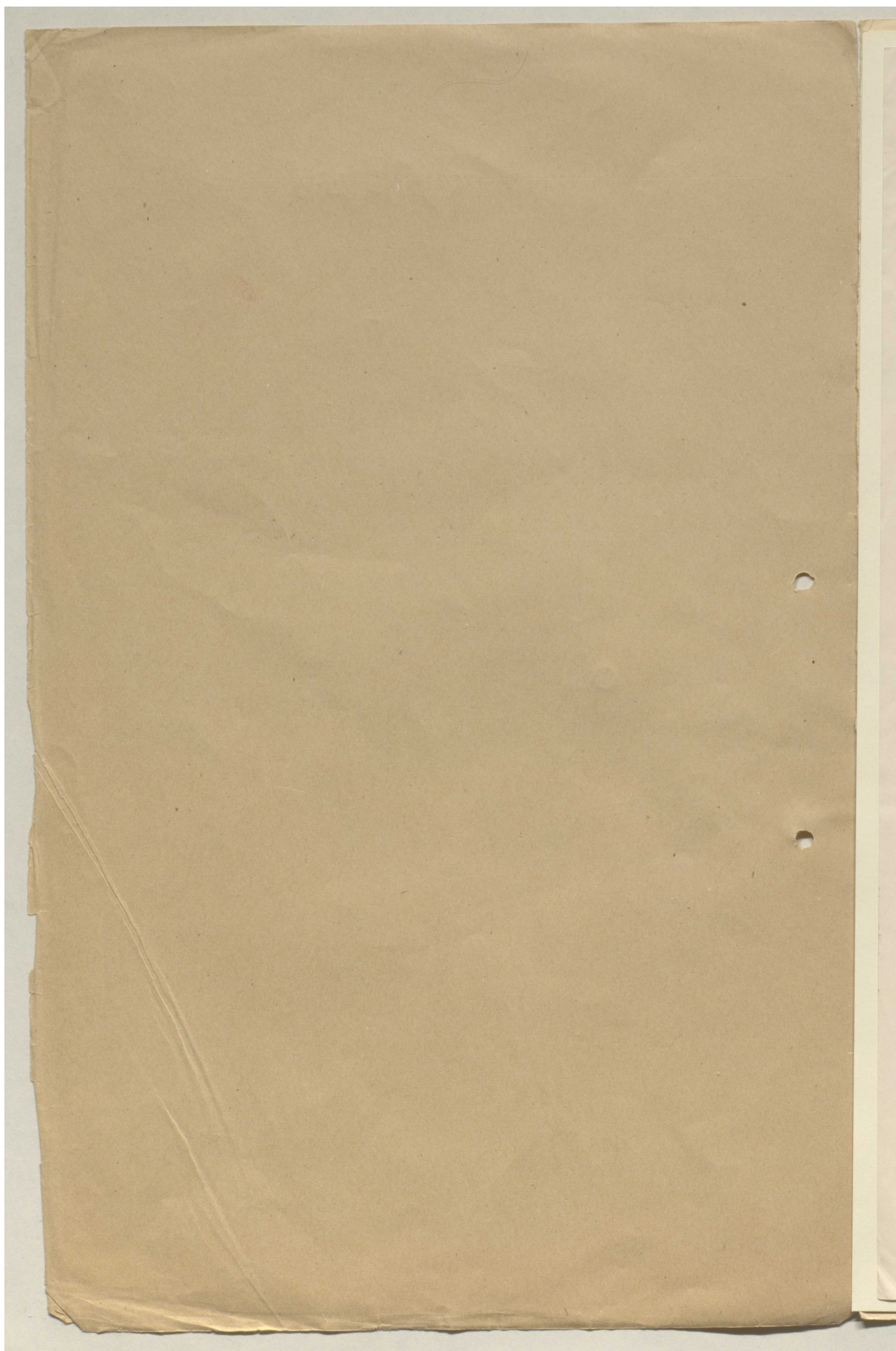
**'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [front-i]  
(2/16)**



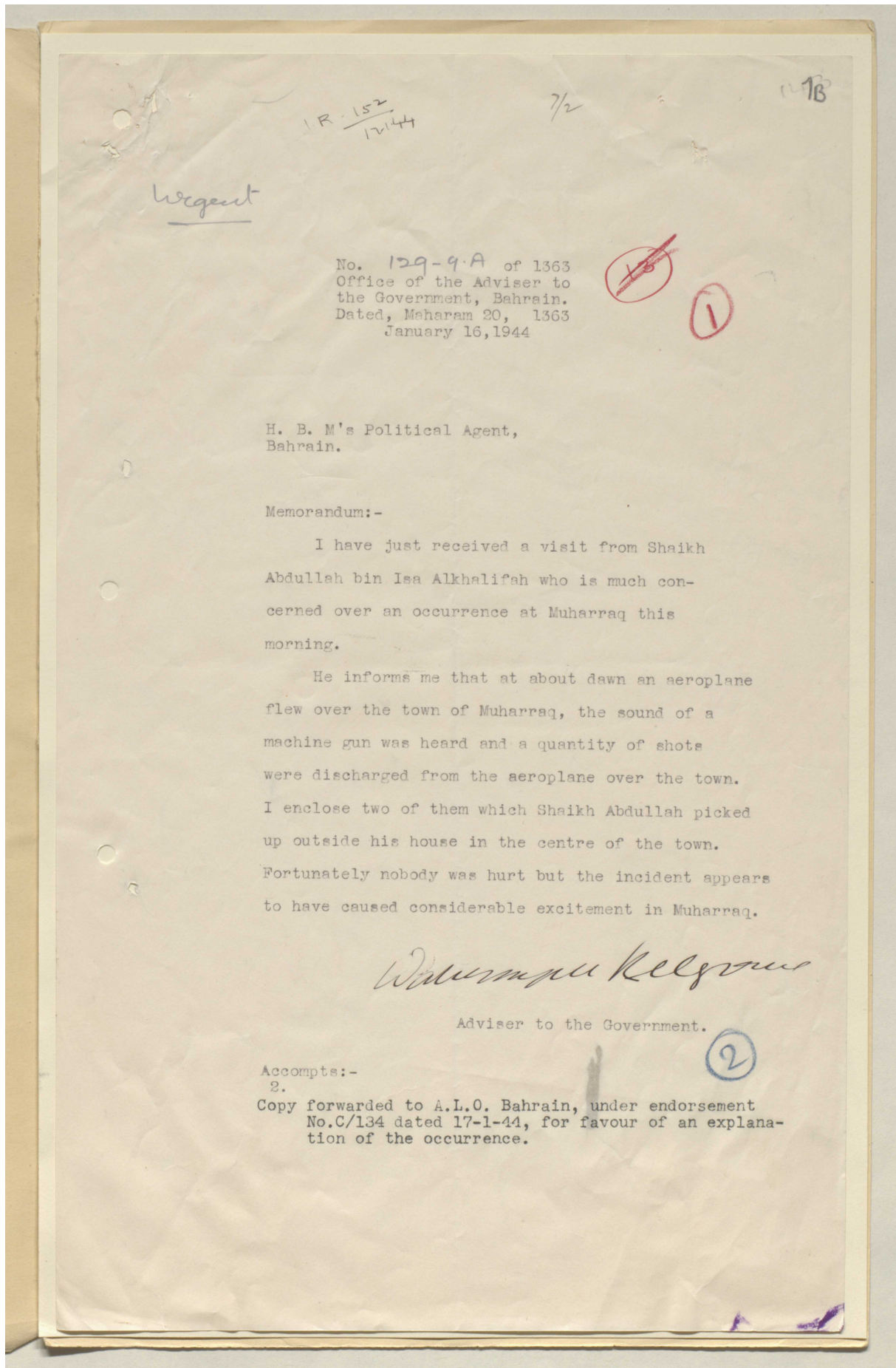
'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [1ar] (3/16)



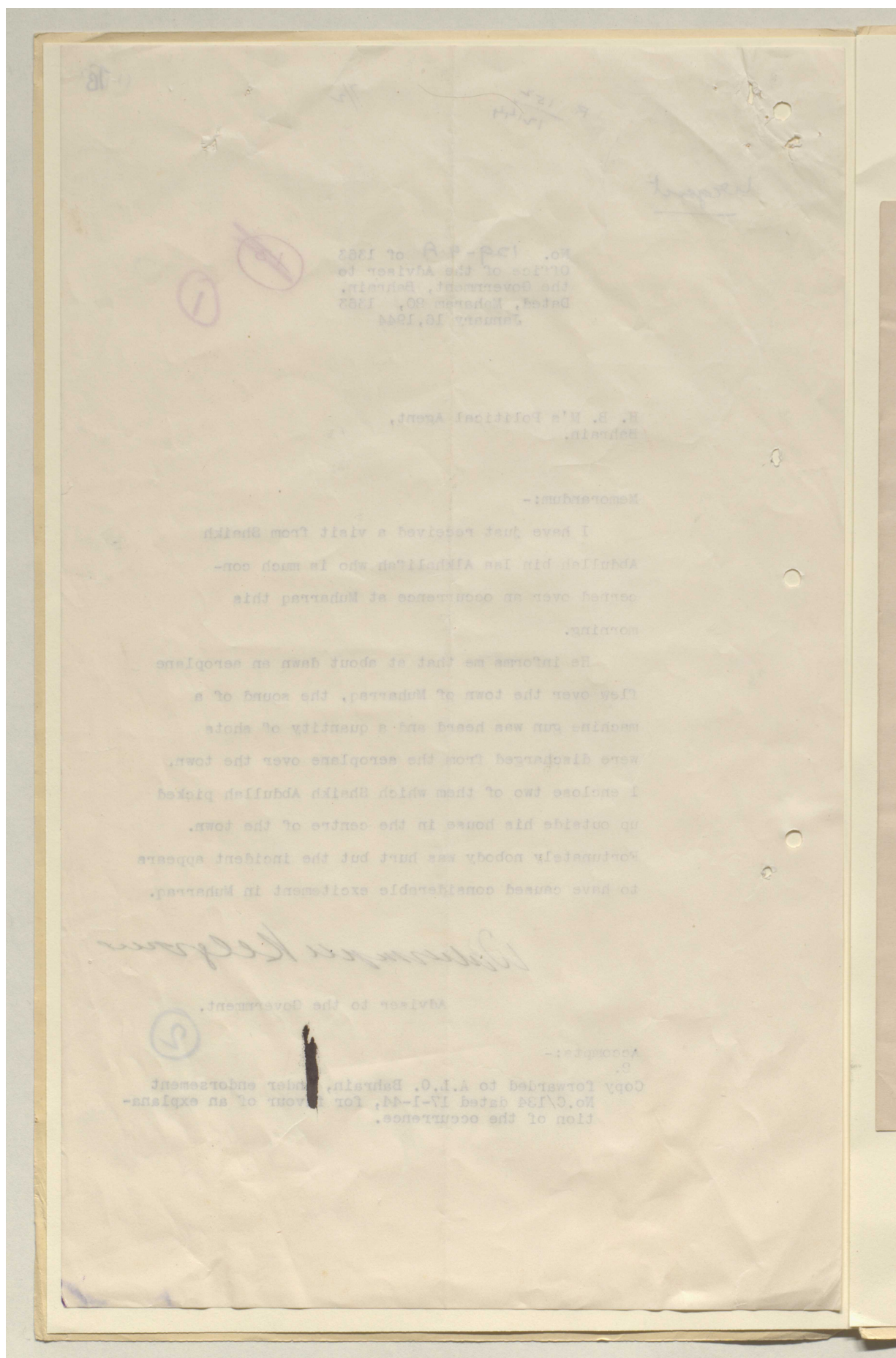
**'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [1av] (4/16)**



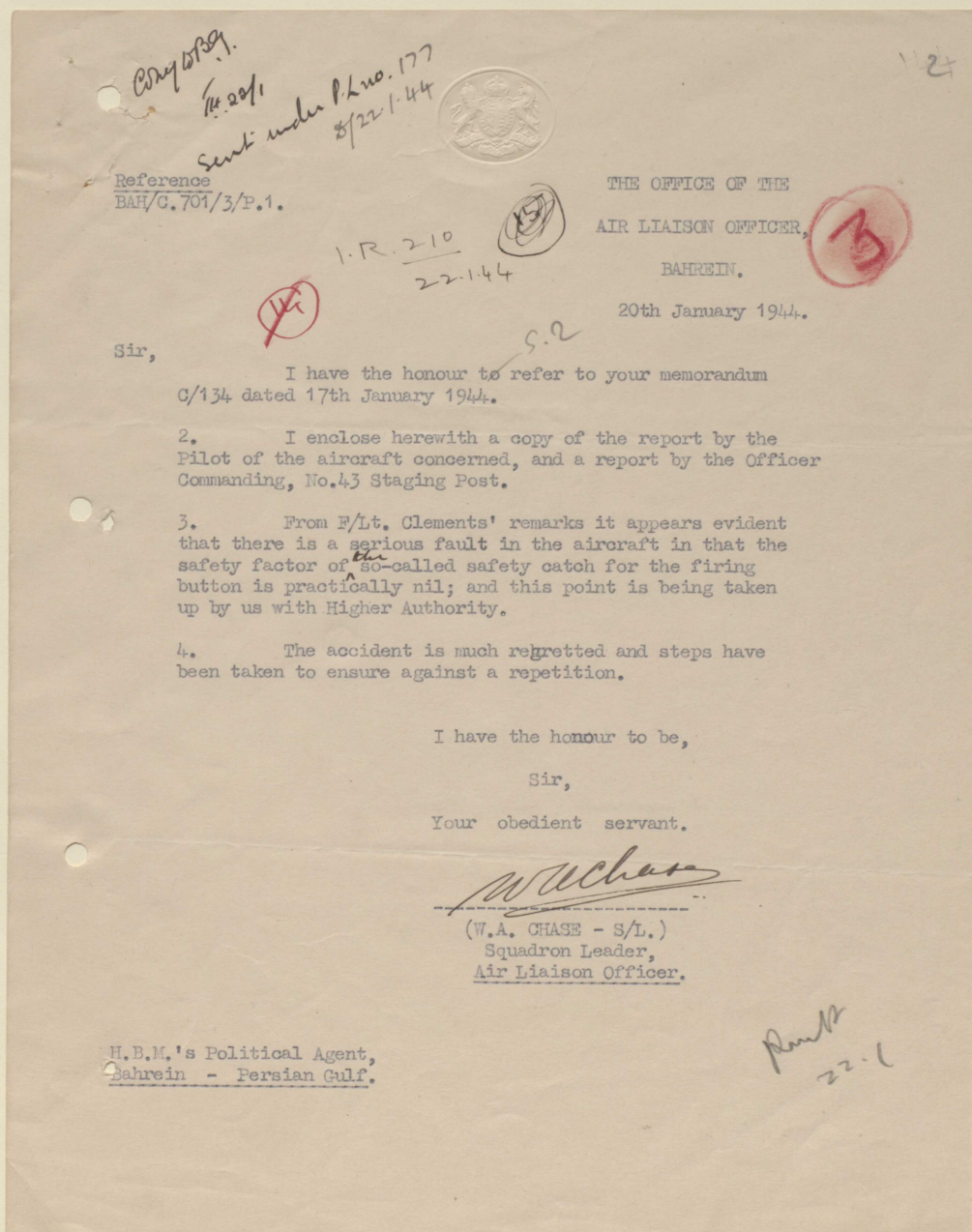
'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [1br] (5/16)



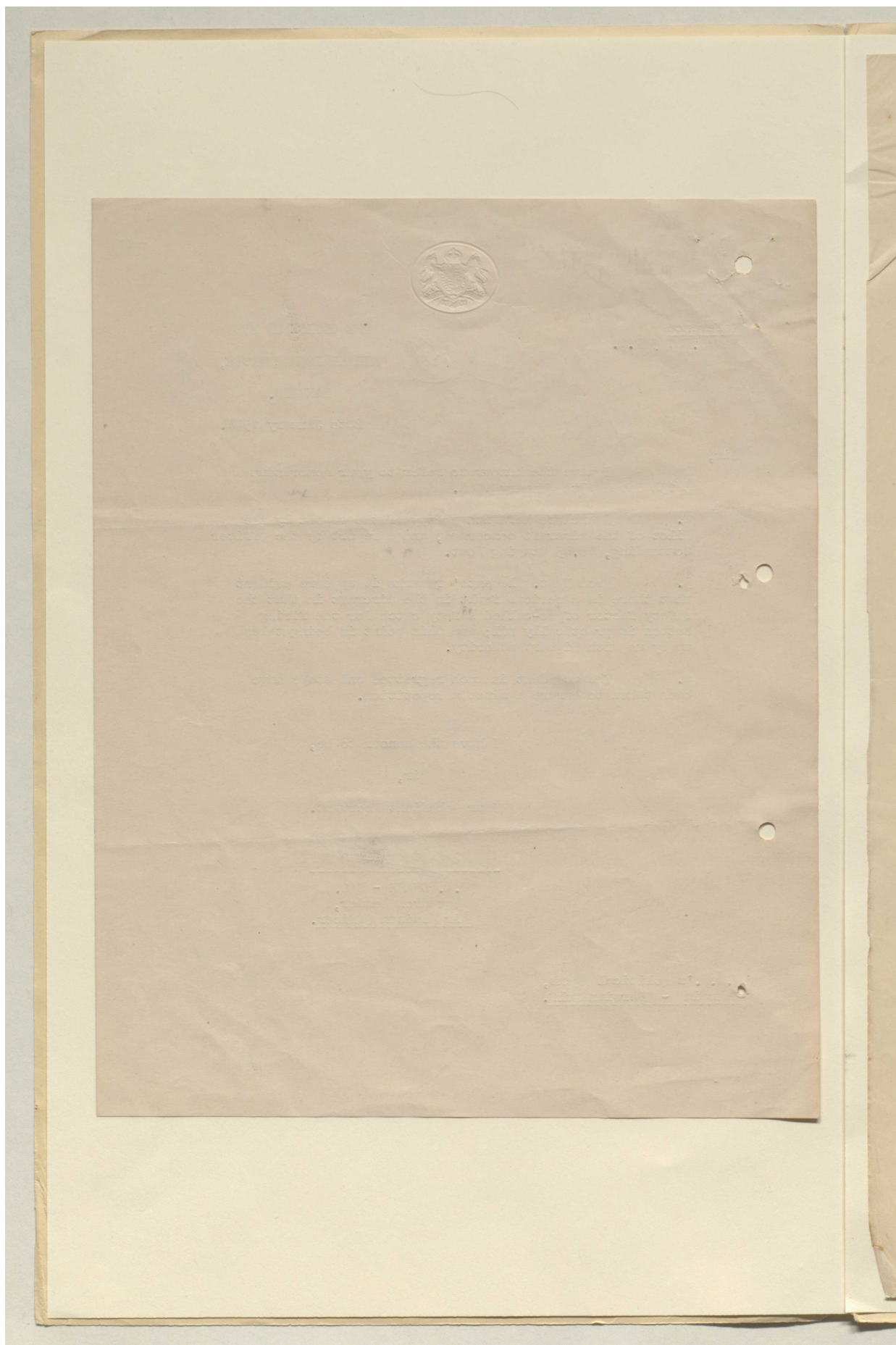
'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [1bv] (6/16)



'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [2r] (7/16)



'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [2v] (8/16)



'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [3r] (9/16)

COPY.

To : O.C., 43 Staging Post.

From: Ans 413599 F/O. R.J. HOUSTON.

Date: 16th January 1944.

Subject:- Accidental firing of machine guns of Beaufighter VI F. No.X 8267.

Sir,  
I have the honour to report that, on 16/1/44 at approximately 0715 hours, I accidentally fired a short burst from the machine guns of Beaufighter X 8267, which was standing 200 yards from the watch office facing in an easterly direction. Whilst operating the automatic cut-out with my left hand, I was steadying the control column with my right, as there was a strong wind. A sudden gust forced the starboard aileron up, causing me to inadvertently knock the safety catch, which is not covered, to the "ON" position, at the same time depressing the firing button.

I have the honour to be your obedient servant.

Sgnd: R.J. Houston. F/O.

=====

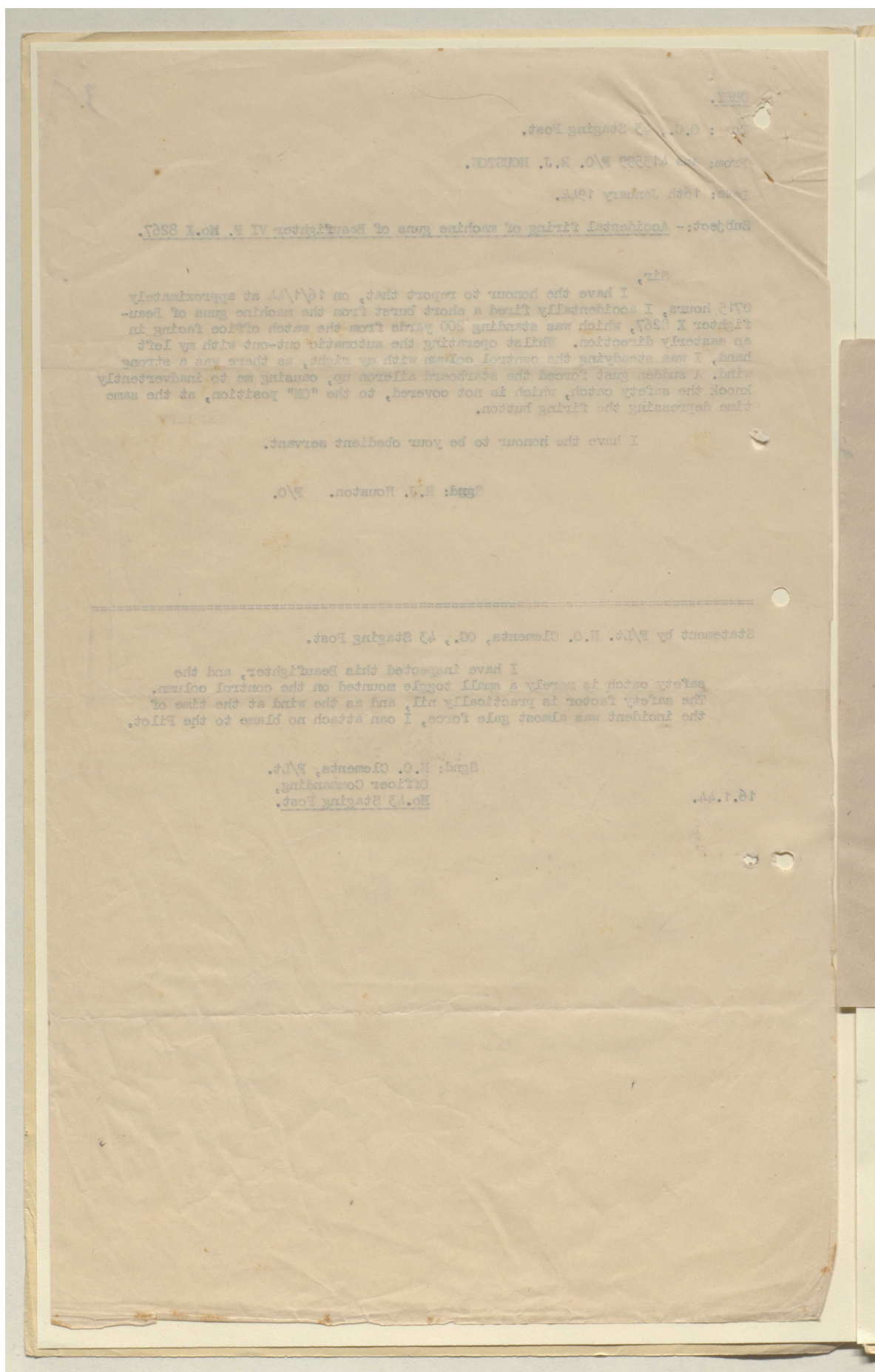
Statement by F/Lt. N.O. Clements, OC., 43 Staging Post.

I have inspected this Beaufighter, and the safety catch is merely a small toggle mounted on the control column. The safety factor is practically nil, and as the wind at the time of the incident was almost gale force, I can attach no blame to the Pilot.

Sgnd: N.O. Clements, F/Lt.  
Officer Commanding,  
No.43 Staging Post.

16.1.44.

'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [3v] (10/16)



'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [4r] (11/16)

No.C/177.

Political Agency,

Bahrain, 22nd January 1944.

The Political Agent, Bahrain, presents his compliments  
to:-

The Adviser to the  
Bahrain Government, Bahrain,  
and has the honour to transmit to him a copy of the under-  
mentioned document(s), for information.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Adviser's memorandum No.129-9A dated the 16th January 1944

No. and date of Enclosure

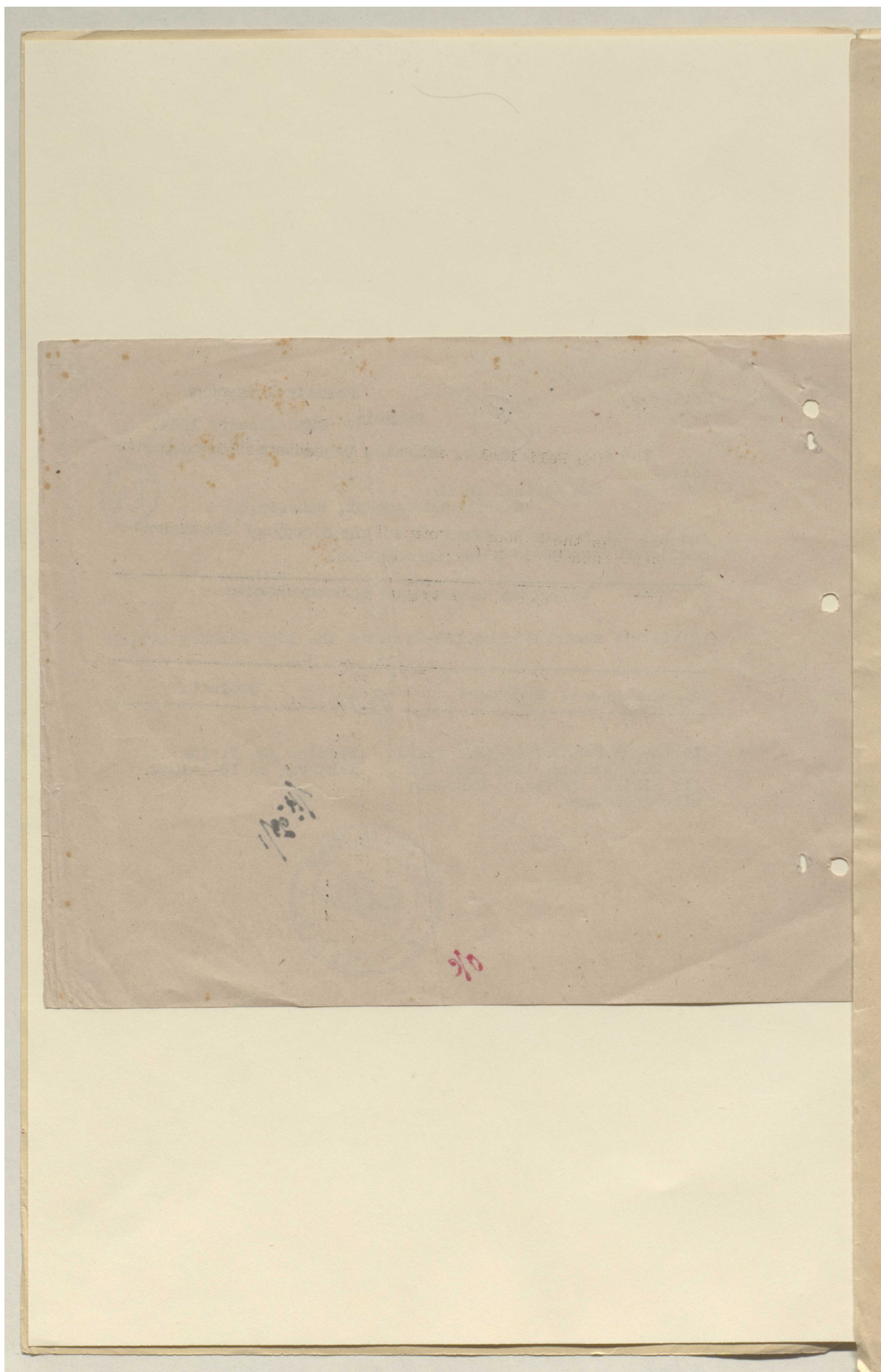
Subject

Letter No.BAH/C.701/3/P.1 dated  
the 20th January 1944 from the  
Air Liaison Officer, Bahrain,  
with enclosure.

Machine gun firing at  
Maharraq on 16-1-1944.



'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [4v] (12/16)



5

7/29

ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE OF MACHINE GUNS OF R.A.F. AIRCRAFT.

-----

(1)

Memo. No.129/9A dated 16.1.44 from Adviser, Bahrain Govt.

(2)

Issued Endt. No.C/134 dated 17.1.44 to A.L.O., Bahrain.

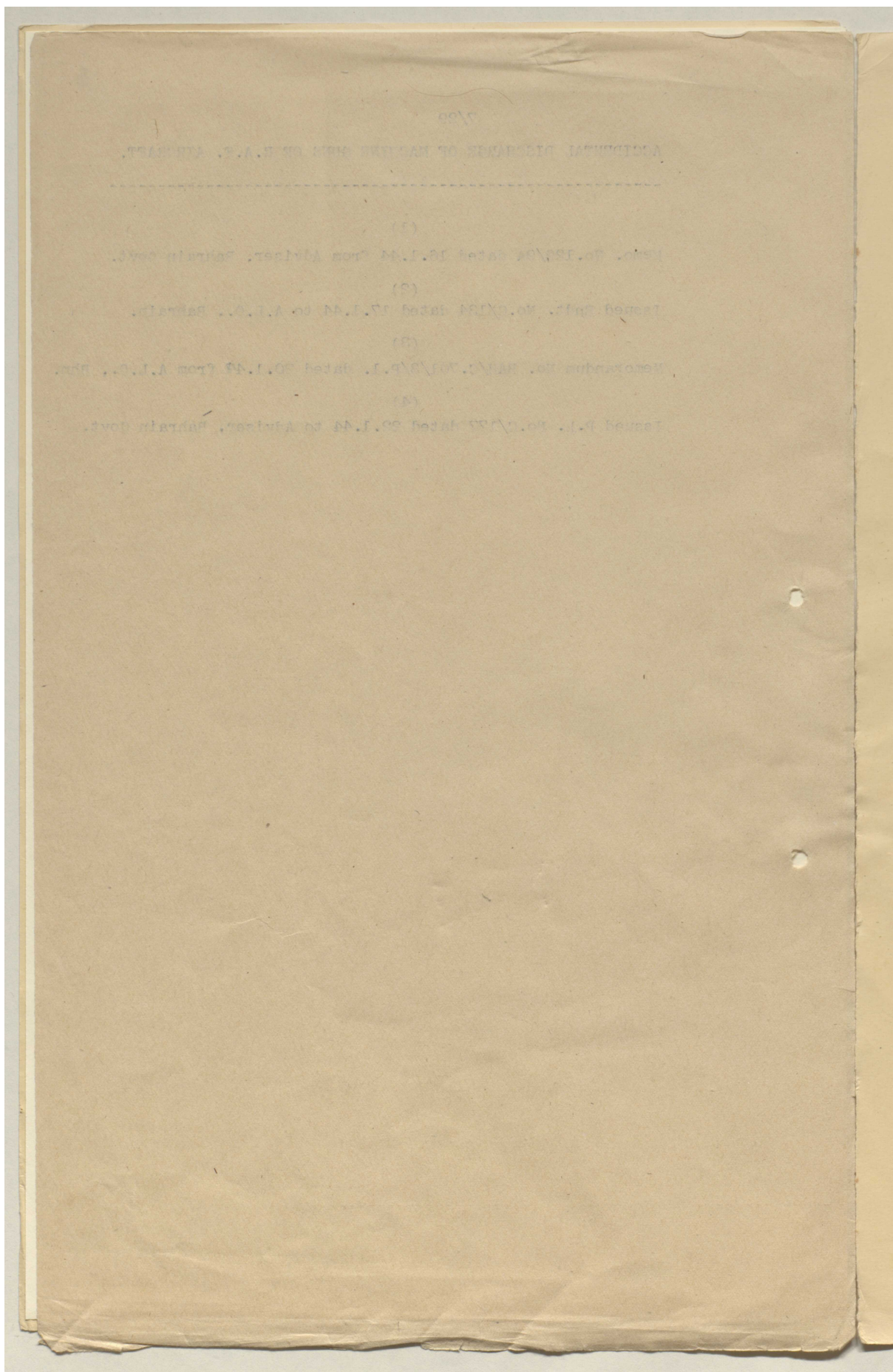
(3)

Memorandum No. BAH/C.701/3/P.L. dated 20.1.44 from A.L.O., Bhn.

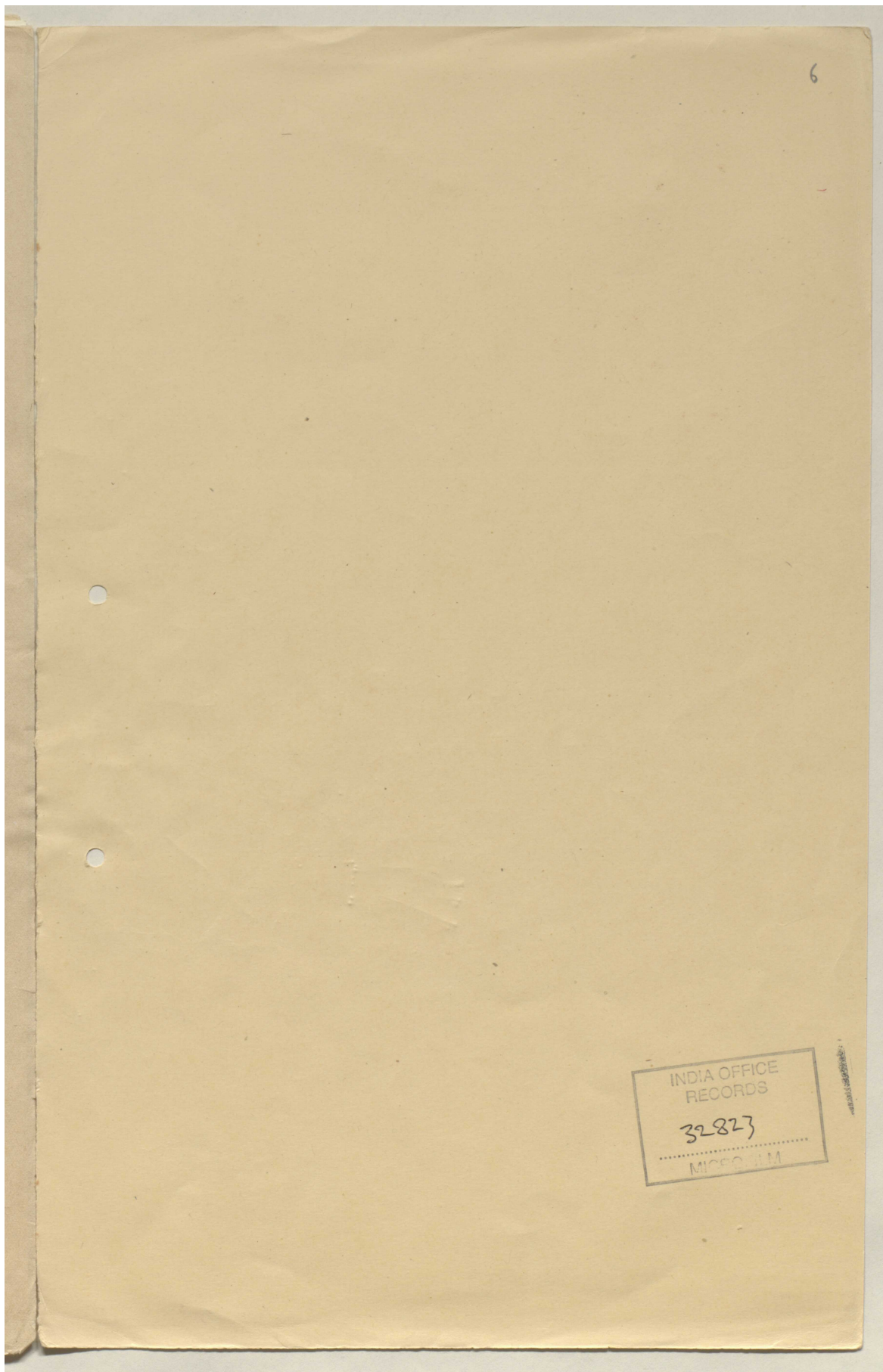
(4)

Issued P.L. No.C/177 dated 22.1.44 to Adviser, Bahrain Govt.

'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [5v] (14/16)



**'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [back-i]  
(15/16)**



**'File 7/29 Accidental discharge of machine guns of R.A.F. aircraft' [back]  
(16/16)**

