

which accompanied Home,
Sept. letter of 1 Oct. 1887, No
371 & the necessary steps
will be taken in view to
introducing the new system
at once.

3. Adverting, however, to para.
5(a) of your letter I am
directed to say that H.E. in
C. presumes that it is
not the intention of the G. of
I. to entrust the Special Branch
with all the Confidential &
demi-official work of the
Secretariat subject to the control
of the Chief Secretary. The
remarks on the subject in
your letter doubtless refer only
to general & political information
of the kind now dealt with
in the Special Branch.

by

11 Jan. 1888
by
16 Jan.

Note

Draft is submitted to the Secy.
Mr. Gervais for approval; Mr.
Home however was absent when
the paper was first circ.

by

VE
Special Postal

How much sent 1881
P.S.

(From order)

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 17 Nov 1897, No. 156 Pol. Q.
 26 Jan 1898, No. 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Current No. 5466 of 1892, dated 23 Dec from G. of I.

Order 14 June 93 No. 79

The G. of I. will be addressed.
 A copy of Mr. Lyall's letter of the reply of this G. of I. will be comd to the Lg. of Police & the Asst. with G. of I. Special Branch.

(Incorporated)

to

11 Jan 93

Letter Lg. of Police, with 2 sp. copies
 Asst. with G. of I. S.B. with 2 sp. copies

Letter No. 80.

Letter Lg. to the G. of I. (H.D.)

I am directed to reply to your letter of 23 Dec '92, No. 1/c, wherein the G. of I. suggests certain modifications in the rules relating to the Constitution of the Special Branch of the Police Dept.

1. This G. of I. has no objection to the proposal that the two Special Abstracts prepared in the Special Branch should be amalgamated or to the instructions which it is proposed to substitute for

pages 10 to 13 of the Memo

it would appear that there is some idea of enlarging the functions of the Special Branch Office by entrusting him with all the Criminal & Secret work of the Department. If by this it is intended that he should be entrusted for the Confidential work connected with the General Administration I do not think the arrangement will work well as the Special Branch Office is likely to be qualified to deal with matters connected with the General Administration.

Also I do not see how the Special Branch Office is to work in the Criminal Administration & the Chief Secretary & the Inspector General of Police. From G.O. 2. 6 Dec 90 No. 350 it would appear that his services are to be made available for purely Police work as an exceptional case when occasion may arise. This seems the only practicable course as dual control will lead to difficulties.

There seems to be no objection to the proposal to have only one Secret Abstract & Intelligence. The new change, however, may be brought into force when work is resumed after the holidays. It is hereby is now done on the lines.

Special Branch

H.M.
H.R.

E

The second clause is new. Arrangements could be made for supplying the Asst. with Government with copies of all newspapers. He gets a good number now.

(d) Para 5(d) will be found in para 11 of the former circular.

(e) & (f) These are new & concern the S.B. officer alone. There is nothing to be said against them.

(g). Para 5(g) consolidates the instructions in para 12 & 13 of the former circular.

The last clause of this para is new but orders in this direction were issued in 1889 & again in 1890—please see G.O. dated 25th October 1889 No 1832 & 12th June 1890, No 1000 (both in printed file) No further action therefore seems called for.

4 The G. of I. asks that, if H.E. the Governor-in-Council sees no objection, the new system may be brought into operation from the 1st January next.

CS.
29/12
29 Dec.

I have had no experience of the working of the Special Branch and am therefore not in a position to judge how far the present proposals will modify the system now in force. From the remarks in para 5(a) & (b)

position of the Special Branch officer.

The position described in para 3(a) of India's letter is virtually that occupied at present by the local Assistant with Government & no radical change will be necessary. The G. of I. says that the

"he must be entrusted with the Secretary's demi-official & secret work". This is understood to refer ^{only} to such demi-official & secret work as concerns the S.B. ~~only~~.

There is much work of the character described by the G. of I. which it would be neither advantageous nor practicable for the Asst with Govt to take up. The only change that appears practicable

is to delegate the circulation of the S.B. Abstracts, & Newspaper reports and such enquiries as may be ordered on these to the S.B. At present these papers are dealt with in the confidential branch of the office, but as the S.B. is to be considered an integral part of the Secretariat that department seems the proper one to deal with them. The Asst. with Govt would, if this were decided on,

of course work through the Chief Secretary.

(b) Para 5 (b) is new. There seems to be no objection to it.

(c) The first clause of para 5(c) will be found in para 11 of the former instructions.

C. No. 5466

From The Govt of India, Home Department.

Dated 28rd December 1892.

FOR ORDERS.

I don't see any objection to the new scheme provided that the demi-official secret work of the Secretary which is entrusted to the S.B. should be only the balance of general & political information of the kind now dealt with by the S.B. which it is not considered desirable to print for circulation. If it means that the S.B. office is to have access to all the Confidential papers in the Secretary's charge & to be his confidential assistant - reporting at the same time to "Thaji & Dakaiti" -

I strongly object

The subordination to the Secy of Police can hardly be anything but nominal.

W
30 Dec

I agree - but it looks very much as if the G.O. of I. wishes to have a special agent in each local Govt. having access to all the confidential papers in the C.S.'s office. We must express our strong disapproval of this, if this is what is meant.

There is no objection to bringing out the new Abstract as proposed after the holidays.

W
1 Jan.

The Govt of India ask for "an early expression of the views of the H.E. the Governor-in-Council on the proposed change" in the working of the Special Branch.

2 The principal change is the issue in future of only one Abstract of Intelligence instead of two as at present; information which is considered too secret to be printed in the Abstract being furnished in manuscript to the Central Special Branch.

There seems to be no objection to this proposal.

3 In para 3 of its letter the G.O. of I. suggests certain instructions for carrying this change into effect which might be substituted for those contained in paras 10 to 13 of the Memorandum printed on pages 2 to 6 of G.O. dated 14th Novr. 1887, No 856 Political

(a) The first of these is as regards the

CURRENT NO. 5466

From

The G. of I.

Home Dept.

No. $\frac{7}{1-C}$

Dated 23

Received 28 } Decr 1892

Enclosures

SUBJECT.

Special Branch.

Haw. J. Hon. W. Johnston C.S.I.

Wm

The following letter will be despatched to the G. of I. (From London)

Letter - Secy to the Home Dept.

SECRETARY

28 DEC 92

PUBLICITY DEPT.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 23rd Decr. 1892. No. $\frac{1}{1-C}$, I am directed to state that this Govt. ~~has~~ ^{has} no objection to the Secret Abstracts of Intelligence locally printed being reduced to one and to the instructions proposed to be substituted for paras 10 to 13 of the Memorandum which accompanied Home Dept. Tr. of 1. Octr 1887 No. 371.

2. It is the for. in Council proposal. presumes that the ~~instruction~~ in para 5(a) of your letter that the officer in charge of the Special Branch should be "entrusted with the Secretary's demi-official secret work" refers only to general and political information of the kind now dealt with by the Special Branch which it is not considered desirable to print for circulation. It would, I am to say, be neither practicable nor advantageous to entrust that officer with all the confidential work which arises [inside] in

W.O.

in the local Secretariat, much
of which is of no interest to
the Special Branch.

3. Instructions have been
issued for the reduction of the
local Abstracts to one with
effect from the commencement
of this year.

I have &c.

End

Copy to the L.G. of Police
and the Asst. with Government
for information & guidance.

C.S.
10/1

"(e) The Special Branch office should be organised on the best possible system for obtaining any previous record at the shortest notice.

"(f) The Special Branch officer should do a good deal of manuscript work in copying such extracts of news, etc., as the Secretary may consider advisable to send to the Central Special Branch with the Government of India, and which the Secretary considers too secret to be printed in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence. Such information will be specially treated on receipt in the Central Special Branch so as to preclude all chances of its leaking out.

"(g) With regard to news received from the Secretariat, the Special Branch officer should only insert, with the Secretary's sanction, such items as may be useful to District and Police officers and print them in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence. All other items of intelligence, from whatever source received, should, after due selection and comparison, be embodied by the Special Branch officer in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence, which will be circulated to all District Superintendents of Police and Magistrates of Districts, to Railway Police officers and any other authorities in and outside the Province or Administration to whom the Local Government may consider it necessary to communicate it, e.g., within the limits of a Province, to the Commissioner of Divisions, the Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General of Police; and, outside the Province, to the Government of India, Foreign and Home Departments, Head-quarters, the Central Special Branch, and the Local Governments and Administrations. Special Branch officers of other Local Governments should be instructed to act on the information given in these Abstracts as if it had been given them demi-officially by the Inspector-General of Police, and to make further enquiries and reports corroborating or contradicting the information given from other districts. These further reports would appear in due time in subsequent issues of the Abstracts as confirming or contradicting what had gone before. Care should be taken to avoid disseminating such information as would destroy spontaneity of report. It may be necessary occasionally to suggest subjects for observation, but, as a rule, it is the unprompted reports of a popular movement or rumour that form a valuable criterion as to their extent and prevalence.

"Further enquiries on any matter, if the Abstract of Intelligence indicates the necessity for them, should, except in special cases, be conducted through District Superintendents, who can utilize either policemen who have shown aptitude for secret service or informers whose intelligence and fidelity have been tested. In special cases Local Governments may consider it desirable to conduct further special enquiries through the Inspector attached to the Special Branch. Outside agency need only be employed for special purposes.

"Only a limited number of copies of the Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence should be printed, and each should bear a particular number, and the officers who receive each number should make special arrangements for the safe custody of that number.

"On transfer, any officer who receives the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence should sign a written certificate that he has made over the complete file of Abstracts to his successor, and the officer receiving charge should endorse the certificate as having received the same, and despatch the certificate to the office from which the Abstracts are issued."

callency the Governor in
system may be brought into operation, locally printed reduced to one, from the

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Chykh

Secretary to the Government of India.

2 H. D.—23-12-32.—26.—P. K. B.

new form of Abstract, and at the same time to ensure that the excluded information shall duly reach the Government of India through the agency of the Thagi and Dacoity Department. For this purpose it is proposed that information which the Secretary to the Local Government considers too secret to be printed in the local Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence, should be communicated in manuscript to the Central Special Branch for the information of the department of the Government of India, and I am to will be specially treated on receipt in the Central Special Branch so as to preclude all chances of its leaking out.

5. The following instructions carrying this change into effect might be the opinion of the Government of India, be suitably substituted for those contained in paragraphs 10 to 13 inclusive of the memorandum which formed the enclosure to the confidential letter quoted in paragraph 1 above, and I am to invite an early expression of the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council on the proposed change.

"(a) Experience has shown that an officer of the Police Department is best suited to conduct the work of the Special Branch. He should of course be a trusted officer who has considerable experience of the *Presidency* and advice will be of assistance to the Government. The special nature of the work requires that he should be kept in his own people, and whose knowledge longer he remains in the post the more valuable must work in immediate subordination to the Inspector-General of Police, but it is essential that he should always be in touch with the Secretary either at the Head-quarters of the Government or in Camp. To enable him to prepare the weekly Secret Abstract of Intelligence, he must be entrusted with the Secretary's demi-official terms of the Government or in Camp. his disposal for correspondence with the District or District officers, the Commissioners and secret work, and be always at me he must be in touch with the office Central Special Branch, with Political and for purely Police work he will be under of Police or others. He will, thus, be a useful link At the same time, supplementing and not supplanting the of the Inspector-General of Police, a the orders of the Inspector-General. Intimate acquaintance between the Secretariat and Police capacity to read the written character, should Inspector-General of Police in confidence for the appointment of the Special Branch with the vernaculars, especially the character of the officer.

"(b) He should pay special attention to the subject of the importation of arms and ammunition, and the smuggling of the same across the border into independent territory or into Native States. Special reports of thefts and loss of rifles or other arms or ammunition, etc., should be received by him, and he should trace the criminals concerned.

"(c) It is highly desirable that the officer in charge of the Special Branch of each Province should be charged with the duty of examining Vernacular Newspapers a notice of all articles and items of news in paragraph 5 above, and all others to be directed. The translated selections from each Province are doubtless useful for the department. It should be made part of the preparation of an annual report on the Press of the Province during the year and giving particulars of each proprietor and editor, and publication.

"The Special Branch officer should also read carefully all the newspapers which are published in English in the *Presidency* and bring to the Secretary's notice any entries which require the attention of Government in any of the Departments, putting up any previous references that may exist in his office on the subject that has attracted his attention.

"(d) The Special Branch officer should be entrusted with the task of dealing with the reports of news-writers in Foreign and Native States, which should be placed at his disposal by the Secretary to Government; also with reports of those news-writers at certain fixed points where it may be considered desirable by the Local Government to have special agents.

[SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

CIRCULAR No. *1/c.*

FROM

C. J. LYALL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

*The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Madras.*Home Department.
Police.

Calcutta, the 23rd December 1892.

SIR,

90. 856 P.
14.11.92

UNDER the orders contained in the memorandum which accompanied the confidential letter of this Department No. 371, dated the 1st October 1887, regarding the formation of a Special Branch of the Police Department at the Head-quarters of each Local Government, the two Secret Abstracts of Intelligence are prepared by that Branch every week. These are the Secret Political Abstract—containing such information of general and political moment as the Local Government may desire to have on record, the circulation of which is restricted, and the Secret Police Abstract—containing information regarding foreigners, foreign and resident suspected persons, religious leaders, sects, wandering gangs of criminals, noted criminals, and matters generally concerning such matters connected with ordinary crime as it is of importance to the District and Police officers should know.

2. It has now been suggested that it be prepared by the Special Branch of each Local Government, in which would be included all that now appears in the present Secret Police Abstract and such additional information, at present included in the Secret Political Abstract, as would make the proposed Police Abstract more generally interesting to District and Police officers and perhaps induce them to furnish more information than they do at present.

3. The suggestion to have only one Secret Abstract of Intelligence appears to the Governor General in Council to be a good one, and it should result in a considerable saving of time and trouble in each local Special Branch, and also in the Central Special Branch with the Government of India, in dealing with these reports. India have noticed in examining the Political Abstracts hitherto supplied that they do not record all the matters of general and political moment which would be of interest not only to the Local Government but also to the Government of India, and the Abstract from one Province has been received week after week without any information at all in it. This is perhaps due to a reluctance on the part of Local Governments to send very confidential information, and Administrations to print and circulate it, and the result is that little, if anything, is included in any of the Abstracts which might not safely be circulated to District and Police officers.

4. In providing, however, for the inclusion of more information than is at present given in the proposed single Secret Abstract of Intelligence, it will be necessary to secure the exclusion from it of such confidential and secret information as must be given to the necessary to secure the exclusion from it circulation as must be given to the tion as ought not to receive such general

1893.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, 14th January 1893, No. 80.

JANUARY.

Special Branch of the Police
Department.

Replying to letter from the Government of India suggesting certain modifications in the rules relating to the constitution of the —, Madras.

14TH JANUARY 1893, No. 80, JUDICIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to reply to your letter, dated 23rd December 1892, No. 1/1-C, wherein the Government of India suggests certain modifications in the rules relating to the constitution of the Special Branch of the Police Department.

2. This Government has no objection to the proposal that the two Secret Abstracts prepared in the Special Branch should be amalgamated or to the instructions which it is proposed to substitute for paras. 10 to 13 of the memorandum which accompanied Home Department letter, dated 1st October 1887, No. 371, and the necessary steps will be taken in view to introducing the new system at once.

3. Adverting, however, to para. 5 (a) of your letter, I am directed to say that His Excellency in Council presumes that it is not the intention of the Government of India to entrust the Special Branch with all the confidential and demi-official work of the Secretariat subject to the control of the Chief Secretary. The remarks on the subject in your letter doubtless refer only to general and political information of the kind now dealt with in the Special Branch.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
14th January 1893.

C. A. GALTON,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

Exd. E. Fernandez.

Govt. of {1893} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th January 1893, No. 79.

JANUARY.

Special Branch of the Police
Department.

Directing that the Government of India be
addressed regarding certain changes in the
constitution of the —

the Secretary considers too secret to be printed in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence. Such information will be specially treated on receipt in the Central Special Branch so as to preclude all chances of its leaking out.

“(g) With regard to news received from the Secretariat, the Special Branch officer should only insert, with the Secretary's sanction, such items as may be useful to district and police officers, and print them in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence. All other items of intelligence, from whatever source received, should, after due selection and comparison, be embodied by the Special Branch officer in the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence, which will be circulated to all District Superintendents of Police and Magistrates of Districts, to Railway Police officers and any other authorities in and outside the province or Administration to whom the Local Government may consider it necessary to communicate it, *e.g.*, within the limits of a province to the Commissioners of Divisions, the Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General of Police; and, outside the province, to the Government of India, Foreign and Home Departments, the Quarter Master General at Army Head-quarters, the Central Special Branch with the Government of India, and Special Branch officers of other Local Governments and Administrations. District Superintendents should be instructed to act on the information given in these Abstracts as if it had been given them demi-officially by the Inspector-General of Police, and to make further inquiries and reports corroborating or contradicting the information given from other districts. These further reports would appear in due time in subsequent issues of the Abstracts as confirming or contradicting what had gone before. Care should be taken to avoid disseminating such information as would destroy spontaneity of report. It may be necessary occasionally to suggest subjects for observation, but, as a rule, it is the unprompted reports of a popular movement or rumour that form a valuable criterion as to their extent and prevalence.

“Further inquiries on any matter, if the Abstract of Intelligence indicates the necessity for them, should, except in special cases, be conducted through District Superintendents, who can utilize either policemen who have shown aptitude for secret service or informers whose intelligence and fidelity have been tested. In special cases Local Governments may consider it desirable to conduct further special inquiries through the Inspector attached to the Special Branch. Outside agency need only be employed for special purposes.

“Only a limited number of copies of the Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence should be printed, and each should bear a particular number, and the officers who receive each number should make special arrangements for the safe custody of that number.

“On transfer, any officer who receives the weekly Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence should sign a written certificate that he has made over the complete file of Abstracts to his successor, and the officer receiving charge should endorse the certificate as having received the same, and despatch the certificate to the office from which the Abstracts issued.”

6. I am to suggest that, if His Excellency the Governor in Council sees no objection, the new system may be brought into operation, and the number of Special Abstracts locally printed reduced to one from the 1st January next.

ORDER—dated 14th January 1893, No. 79, Judicial.

The Government of India will be addressed.

A copy of Mr. Lyall's letter and of the reply of this Government will be communicated to the Inspector-General of Police and the Assistant with Government, Special Branch.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
„ Assistant with Government, Special Branch.

Ed. E. Fernandez.

the department of the Government of India concerned. Such information will be specially treated on receipt in the Central Special Branch so as to preclude all chances of its leaking out.

5. The following instructions carrying this change into effect might, in the opinion of the Government of India, be suitably substituted for those contained in paras. 10 to 13 inclusive of the memorandum which formed the enclosure to the confidential letter quoted in para. 1 above, and I am to invite an early expression of the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council on the proposed change:

“(a) Experience has shown that an officer of the Police Department is best suited to conduct the work of the Special Branch. He should, of course, be a trusted officer who has considerable experience of the presidency and its people, and whose knowledge and advice will be of assistance to the Government. The special nature of the work requires that he should be kept in his appointment for some years, for the longer he remains in the post the more valuable does his experience become. He must work in immediate subordination to the Chief Secretary to Government and to the Inspector-General of Police, but it is essential that he should always be with the Secretary either at the head-quarters of the Government or in camp. To enable him to prepare the weekly Secret Abstract of Intelligence, he must be entrusted with the Secretary's demi-official and secret work, and be always at his disposal for correspondence with the Central Special Branch, with Political or District officers, the Commissioners of Police or others. At the same time he must be in touch with the office of the Inspector-General of Police, and for purely police work he will be under the orders of the Inspector-General of Police. He will thus be a useful link between the Secretariat and Police, supplementing and not supplanting the Inspector-General of Police in confidential matters. Intimate acquaintance with the vernaculars, especially the capacity to read the written character, should be an indispensable qualification for the appointment of the Special Branch officer.

“(b) He should pay special attention to the subject of the importation of arms and ammunition, and the smuggling of the same across the border into independent territory or into Native States. Special reports of thefts and loss of rifles or other arms or ammunition, &c., should be received by him, and he should see that every effort is made to trace the criminals concerned.

“(c) It is highly desirable that the officer in charge of the Special Branch of each province should be charged with the duty of examining vernacular newspapers, and of including in his reports a notice of all articles and items of news bearing on the points enumerated in para. 5 above, and all others to which his attention may be specially directed. The translated selections from the vernacular papers published in each province are doubtless useful for general purposes, but experience proves that they do not contain all information required for an Intelligence Department. It should be made part of the functions of the Special Branch to prepare an annual report on the Press of the province, noticing all newspapers received during the year and giving particulars regarding the character, antecedents, &c., of each proprietor and editor, and noting the tone and character of the publication.

“The Special Branch officer should also read carefully all the newspapers which are published in English in the presidency and bring to the Secretary's notice any entries which require the attention of Government in any of the departments, putting up any previous references that may exist in his office on the subject that has attracted attention.

“(d) The Special Branch officer should be entrusted with the task of dealing with the reports of news-writers in Foreign and Native States, which should be placed at his disposal by the Secretary to Government; also with reports of those news-writers at certain fixed points where it may be considered desirable by the Local Government to have special agents.

“(e) The Special Branch office should be organised on the best possible system for obtaining any previous record at the shortest notice.

“(f) The Special Branch officer should do a good deal of manuscript work in copying such extracts of news, etc., as the Secretary may consider advisable to send to the Central Special Branch with the Government of India, and which

14TH JANUARY 1893, No. 79, JUDICIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read again go, dated 14 November 1887 No. 856 Political
" " " " 26 January 1888 No. 210-211 Judicial
READ the following paper:— 4 June 1888 No. 1245 "

From C. J. LYALL, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department—Police, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 23rd December 1892, No. 1/1-C.

Under the orders contained in the memorandum which accompanied the confidential letter of this department, No. 371, dated the 1st October 1887, regarding the formation of a Special Branch of the Police Department at the head-quarters of each Local Government, two Secret Abstracts of Intelligence are prepared by that Branch every week. These are the Secret Political Abstract, containing such information of general and political moment as the Local Government may desire to have on record, the circulation of which is restricted, and the Secret Police Abstract, containing information regarding foreigners, foreign and resident suspects, religious leaders, sects, wandering gangs of criminals, noted criminals, and generally concerning such matters connected with ordinary crime as it is of importance that district and police officers should know.

2. It has now been suggested that it would be an advantage to have only one Secret Abstract of Intelligence prepared by the Special Branch of each presidency, in which would be included all that now appears in the present Secret Police Abstract and such additional information, at present included in the Secret Political Abstract, as would make the proposed Police Abstract more generally interesting to district and police officers, and perhaps induce them to furnish more information than they do at present.

3. The suggestion to have only one Secret Abstract of Intelligence appears to the Governor-General in Council to be a good one, and it should result in a considerable saving of time and trouble in each local Special Branch, and also in the Central Special Branch with the Government of India, in dealing with these reports. The Government of India have noticed, in examining the Political Abstracts hitherto supplied, that they do not record all the matters of general and political moment which would be of interest not only to the Local Government but also to the Government of India, and the Abstract from one province has been received week after week without any information at all in it. This is perhaps due to a reluctance on the part of Local Governments and Administrations to print and circulate very confidential information, and the result is that little, if anything, is included in any of the Abstracts which might not safely be circulated to district and police officers.

4. In providing, however, for the inclusion of more information than is at present given in the proposed single Secret Abstract of Intelligence, it will be necessary to secure the exclusion from it of such confidential and secret information as ought not to receive such general circulation as must be given to the new form of Abstract, and at the same time to ensure that the excluded information shall duly reach the Government of India through the agency of the Central Special Branch of the Thagi and Dacoity Department. For this purpose it is proposed that information which the Secretary to the Local Government considers too secret to be printed in the local Special Branch Abstract of Intelligence should be communicated in manuscript to the Central Special Branch for the information of

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Special Branch of the Police Deptt.

Directing that the Govt. of India
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