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Gobernment of Madras.

Judicial (19 //) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1541

Confidential

DATED 2 - 10 - 19//

[Abstract.]

THE INDIAN POST OFFICE ACT.

Recording communication from the Govt. of India on the subject of action taken under section 26 of action taken under section taken under section action taken under section action taken under section taken under section



CURRENT FILE.

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

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The Secy. to the Govt. of India,

Home Department.

Sir,

In the course of the inquiry into the murder of the late Mr. Ashe, it has been made clear that there has been a close and active connexion between the persons engaged in the conspiracy which led to that murder and V.V.S. Aiyar and other British Indian subjects who are now taking refuge in Pondicherry. Information has just been received from three trustworthy witnesses, whose statements are enclosed, that there has been regular practice in revolver shooting by V.V.S. Aiyar and his friends, accompanied by lectures explaining that the object of the instruction is the assassination of British Indian officials. There is

reason to believe that the murder of Mr. Ashe was precipitated by the impetuosity of the murderer and that the original intention was to arrange for the assassination **a** a number of officials of the Tinnevelly district. The revolver practice which was discontinued for a short time after Mr. Ashe's murder is operation again in full swing, and it is reported that the seditionists are intent on a series of assassinations at the time of the Durbar. It has also been ascertained that a number of revolvers or pistols have been imported at Pondicherry. A considerable quantity of correspondence has recently been obtained from the house of one of the refugees, and this shows that they are in active communication with persons residing in this Presidency. The Governor in Council regards the situation as a dangerous one and he considers that it is theme important imperative to discover the ramifications a copies enclosed.

of the connexion between the members of this Pondicherry gang and sympathisers in British India. He has therefore issued two orders under section 26 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, directing the interception of all postal articles addressed to the principal refugees in Pondicherry and to their known correspondents in this Presidency. I am now to request that, if the Govt. of India see no objection, orders may be issued under sub-section (1) of section 26 of the Act that all correspondence required for the purpose of the investigation into any offence which may reasonably be suspected to have been committed should be retained by the Madras Criminal Intelligence Department and that the remainder shoula be delivered to the addressees.

2. It is probable that, as further information is received, it will be necessary to add to the list of persons whose correspondence with Pondicherry or the neighbouring post offices should be intercepted. I am to explain that it has been thought advisable to include letters posted in the neighbourhood of Pondicherry as it is known that seditionists send their correspondence to be posted at such offices.

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Home Department.

(Political).

Simla, the 15th September 1911, Shift SECRETAR

ORDER.

Whereas the Governor of Madras in Council has decided under section 26 (1) of the Indian Post Office Act. VI of 1898, that all postal articles addressed to (1) V.V. Subrahmanya Aiyar (2) C. Subrahmanya Bharati (3) S. Srinivasachari (4) S. Nagaswami Aiyar (5) G.S.Dikshit alias S.Guruswami Aiyar (6) K.R.Appadurai Aiyar alias Lakshmi Narayana Aiyar (7) S. Madaswami Pillai (8) The Manager, Editor or Publisher of the newspapers Bala Bharata and Dharmam (9) K.G. Pasupati Aiyar (10) K.R. Venkatarama Aiyar B.A., B.L. (11) S.S.Bharati (12) S.D.Krishna Aiyangar B.A., B.L. and (13) Swami Vallinayagam shall be intercepted and delivered to Cyril Chapman Longden Esq., Superintendent of Police, the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct under the said section and sub-section that such of the said postal articles as are required for the purpose of investigation into any suspected offence shall be retained by the Madras Criminal Investigation Department for the purposes of such investigation and that the postal articles which are not so required shall be returned to the postal authorities for delivery to the addressees.

Sd/ A. Earle.

Secretary to the Government of India.



Copy forwarded to the Government of Madras for information, with reference to their letter No. 3997-6, dated the 7th September 1911.

By order,

m. S. D. Butler

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

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