

Telephone : VICTORIA 4066.

D/37

44
Mesopotamia Commission,
28, Abingdon Street,
Westminster.

September 29th 1916

Dear Sir John Nixon,

In reply to your letter of the 28th inst. I am forwarding herewith a copy of the Telegrams which have been furnished to us in regard to the River Transport for Expedition "D", so far as India and the India Office are concerned. I trust this will give you what you want.

In regard to the Post-script of your letter we have no definite information as to the dates on which the Commander-in-Chief's instructions to you were received by the India Office, but I am enquiring into the matter.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Secretary.

General Sir John Nixon K.C.B.

The Manor House

Sedlescombe

near Battle

Sussex.

Rd. 29.9.16
a. 29.9.16

The Manor House.
Scalecote near Poole.
Sussex.
28. September. 1916.

From General Sir John Nixon.
Rt Hon General.

To The Secretary.
Mesopotamia Commission.

Sir.

The Vicar has twice mentioned in the
Collections of Papers - No 238 dated 30: November
1915 and No 59 of the medical collection dated
30: March 1916 - the matter of the urgency of
their transport for the Expedition and I am
unable to find any of the telegrams and letters
which passed between the Government of India
and the Secretary of State on the subject;
nor can I find any record of the action taken
by the Secretary of State on these requisitions
or the dates on which the admirals were
requested by the India Office to provide
war steamers, stern-wheelers, tug & barges &c.

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It appears to me vital to the enquiry,
and to me personally, that this information
should be placed before the Commission,
and therefore I have the honour to
request that you will be so kind
as to refer upon the Commission

This my request that the above information may be called for, and that I may be furnished with a copy, in the same way as you have been good enough to give me the other collections of papers.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant.

J. Lubbock
Genl.

I have further the honour to request that I may be informed of the dates on which the instructions from the Comptroller in Chief in India to me - no. 107 of the collection of papers - were received by the India Office and whether they were received by telegram or letter or both.

2nd May 1915
J. Lubbock
Genl.

Duff

D/33

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16
15
Sept. 27th 1916

THE MANOR HOUSE
SEDLSC
S

Dear Sir John Nixon,

By all means keep the papers
you have until next week, but I should
be glad to have them about the 4th Oct.
I will let you know at the possible
earliest
moment, when we have decided by what
date we shall be ready for you.

Walter says
in I sent na
much in the
with digest
ill not be
two weeks.
we know
all to war
yet with
we -
some
Mulle

Sir John Nixon
The Manor House
Sedlescombe
Sussex.

RS. 27. 9. 16
a 27. 9. 16

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STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

26. Sept. 46.

My dear Prof.

I see your letter says
that you want the papers you lent me back
tomorrow. But there is so much in them
to read that I can't possibly digest it all
by then & I hope you will not mind
my keeping them another week.
I presume you will let me keep in
due course when I shall be wanted
but I am not busy yet with this
avalanche of literature -

Yours sincerely
John Lubbock

Proof

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t.

C 96

September 18th 1916.

Dear Sir John Nixon,

I beg to enclose herewith the corrected Proof of Sir Edmund Barrow's evidence as requested; also a copy of the Vincent-Bingley Report. As the number of these is limited, I must ask you to be so good as to return the enclosed copy to these offices by the 27th inst.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

Sir John Nixon

The Manor House

Sedlescombe,

Sussex.

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

Rs. 18. 9. 16
A 18 9. 16

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THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

16-1-1916.

Dear Mr. Pitt.

Your C.S.O of the
13th I got last night.

I would rather have the
corrected proof of Mr. Danon's
evidence & prefer to wait for
it.

I trust you will be kind
enough to grant this my formal
request, to be furnished with
a copy of the Vincent-Bingley
Report - before the Commission &
that it may be sent me here. I
have got a sort of impression &
do not want to go to

inst, we

's evidenc

the cor-

it to you

there are

-Bingley

week, I

Rd. 13. 9.16
A. 13. 9.16

MEGGERNIE CASTLE,
ABERFELDY,
N.B.

12. Sept. 1916.

Dear Aunt -

I expect to go
home - to Telescombe -
on Friday & would be very
much obliged to you
if you would be so
kind to send me
there the copy of
Barnum's Bridal
which you said
was to be sent me

Sep

o your letter
corrected p
it in a few
rather wait
e the uncor

immediately!

I think you ought

63

so that I could make
myself acquainted with
it.

Yours sincerely
Johannes W. C.

THE MANOR HOUSE
SEDLSCOMBE
SUSSEX

Sept. 13 1916

Dear Sir John Nixon,

In reply to your letter of the 12th inst, we have not yet got the corrected proof of Barrow's evidence but we hope to get it in a few days.

Would you rather wait until we get the corrected proof or have the uncorrected proof sent to you immediately?

I think you ought also to know that there are certain reflections made on you in the Vincent-Bingley Report. If you care to come here one day next week, I could show you the passage, or if you like to make a formal application for ~~the~~ a copy to be lent to you, I will put the request before the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

General Sir John Nixon
The Manor House, Sedlescombe
Sussex.

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

29. Aug. 1876.

Dear Aunt,

Many thanks for your letter. I shall not be required to be at the end of September. I am going to Scotland this week & know that you will not look for me before then, as I do not want to cut my visit short. I will try to see you on Thursday next when I depart to be in town.

Yours sincerely,
John Lubbock

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

Rec. 26.8.'16

A. 26.8.16.

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THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

25. Aug. 1916.

Dear Mr. H.

Many thanks for your

13. Aug. of yesterday.

I am very much obliged to you
both to the statement of the real
evidence of Sir G. Barron and
am glad the Commission will
allow me to see it. Will you
try not to give away this is to be
done - Will you send them to me?

Yours truly

John Wilson

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THE MANOR HOUSE,
BODLESCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

Handwritten:
The Thatched House
Aldwick near Bognor
22. Aug 1916

August 24 1916.

Dear Sir John Nixon,

In reply to your letter of the 23rd. inst.

I have asked the Commissioners to let me know if they have any additions to suggest to your "Heads of Evidence", and send you herewith a copied copy of your "Heads of Evidence" I will let you know in due course if I get any further suggestions as to it.

At their meeting on Tuesday the Commission decided to take up immediately the medical part of their enquiry; this means that we shall not, I imagine, require to take your evidence until, at any rate, the end of September.

I understand that you have already been supplied by Sir Edmund Barrow with a copy of the telegraphic correspondence in regard to Expedition "D". In addition the Commission asked me to say that if you desire it, you are to be at liberty to peruse the "brief" of Sir Edmund Barrow's oral evidence before the Commission.

With kind regards,

Sir John Nixon.

The Thatched House

Aldwick

Near Bognor.

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

Telegram ^{sent}
re Arthur of Barnes 59

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THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

The Thatched House
Clowick. Near Boyton.

23. Aug. 1926.

Today

Dear Dr. H.

I hope you received my
letter - passed saw my son - giving the
heads of the evidence I propose to
give to the Commission.

Saw a statement in the Times
this morning saying the Commission
has adjourned for a fortnight & will
then start on the medical side of the
inquiry.

At one time when I shall be
wanted - I am staying here till

Monday next the 28th - & also
that I shall be asked to

60

THE MANOR HOUSE,
BEDLEScombe,
SUSSEX.

In evidence about the inscription as well
as about its medical aspect?

Will you kindly let me have a reply?

Yours sincerely,

Edinburgh

1. The orders given me and what I was to report on & what to accomplish.
2. Situation on my arrival - distribution of troops - my powers.
3. Description of the country at the time & the moral lines of advance - the Bursa vilayet.
4. Strength of troops - transport - wires & tele-
medical arrangements & hospitals - want of aircraft, machine guns, bombs - old type of heavy guns & howitzers - wire
5. Advance of Turks - battles of Shai ba and Barjisick & problem in front of me in success. Reinforcement demanded.
6. Turkish method of supply & lines of advance. our flotilla on the Hammar Lake.
7. Steps necessary to carry out the orders, settlement of order in which mission was carried out & difficulties encountered.
8. Description of country & situation on the Karun River, climate & temperature - its garrison & previous history - relations

- 14. withdrawal of troops from Karim Nour, 3.63
their situation at time of capture of Amirak,
garrison that led to be left at too up
the Karim.
- 15. Question asked re as to "effective occupation"
of the Meera vilayet. the limits of the
vilayet - Problem of capture + retention
of Nasirish.
- 16. Certainty of low water in Hammar
Lake and alternative of railway by
the desert to Nasirish. Demand for
railway. Owing to climate necessity
of return of my young territorial soldiers
to India, who were not replaced -
Indroon to get Police from India
to replace troops in Jerrison so that
fighting troops could be ^{released} ~~used~~ as
no reinforcements forth coming.
17. Demand for Indian coolie corps
at Meera and railway ^{not sanctioned} ~~protection work~~
with a view of organization of transport
across Hammar Lake - Enruyo.
18. strength of position - altitude of tubes -
shortage of aircraft for reconnaissance -
no depots - Route aircraft had to

etc. of Sir Edmund Barrow's evidence, in order to refresh
your memory, and to meet any refl. x

23. River bank transport. bring up more
troops, supplies & ammunition. advance to
Ctesiphon - the battle of Ctesiphon - 65
detachment sent.

24. arrival of reinforcements in country
difficulties of getting them off country -
high buildings & road making.

25. Tomshen's report on amount of his
supplies in Kut. necessity of haste
in advance of Dyer's army corps
from Anarak to his relief. counts
up to middle January 1916 when
all health conditions were to hand
was commencing.

26. medical arrangements through campaign -
It is proposed that Commission hear
from the General Sir O' Moore
Craig's report (before handing over
Command in Chiefship) on
medical & other deficiencies &
also my reply to India office
to questions on this subject in May

1916 -

6.
difficulties encountered through lack of loss 66
transport, and non-compliance with demand
made by me for more ships - mal-transport
by lack of no wounded - loss of
description in field ambulances &
shortage of medical personnel in attendance
on wounded withdrawn from there.

27. Late arrival of ships at Basra
bringing field ambulances of divisions which
came from France - reported shortage of
medical supplies after action at
Shaikh Sa'ad, in January, 1916,

28. action taken to improve matters for
comfort of troops - see machines at
Basra & Amara - fans, electric
lighting - supplies by Red Cross -
men's clothing etc. interest of hospital
accommodation.

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The Hatched Hoard.

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Aldwick. Baynes.

20. August. 1826.

Dear Drift.

I send you the "heads of
Evidence" on which I desire to be
heard by the Commission, & take
advantage of Mr. Reid after to
have some copies typed - Will you be
so kind as to have them typed and
let me have three copies & I shall be
very much obliged to you.

I enclose you a letter from
Sir Edmund Barron - I have heard
any official papers with me, and
shall have to rely on my memory and
shall be at a great disadvantage, so
I trust that your representation is
that the printed papers on which

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his statements with a board may be
sent me & I hope Lord George Hamilton
will agree to this.

I return to Teddington on Thursday
proposed, in due course that you will
tell me when I am required to appear.

with reference to his autoproduct
para - I asked at the India office
if they would pay the fees if I should
find it desirable to employ counsel -
which I understand was said by the
Princ. Minister to be permissible -
so I could not afford to pay them
myself.

I am on sick leave from active
service and do not know what
subsistence and travelling allowances
are assigned to my permanent
appointment or if there are any
attaching to any command in
India while in England - I hope you
will kind clear up this point
for me.
Yours truly,
J. M. M. M.

A. 18 Aug. '16 with

69

August 18 1916.

Dear Sir John Nixon,

In reply to your letter of the 16th inst. subsistence and travelling allowance would be paid to you according to the Treasury Scale in respect of journeys and necessary sojourns in London, when you are giving evidence before the Commission. This will also apply to any journeys to London undertaken by you in response to definite request from me. I do not think, however, I should be in a position to pay you an allowance etc. for journeys or a stay in London which might have been incurred by the exigencies of preparing your evidence.

I should be glad to receive from you in due course a draft of the "Heads of Evidence", as we agreed at our interview; and I will ask the Commission at the next meeting if they have any special points upon which they wish to examine you. I will also lay before them your suggestion as to being allowed to see the ^{telegrams} draft of etc. of Sir Edmund Barrow's evidence, in order to refresh your memory, and to meet any reflexions which might appear to be made upon you in these documents.

Secretary.

Sir John Nixon,

The Thatched House,

Aldwick
Near Bognor,
Sussex.

70

A. 18 Aug. '16 with
Treasury



INDIA OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, S.W.

16/8/16

MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE
SUSS

My dear Nixon

I had your
wire up here yesterday
and I am sorry I did not

near Prognon

be

see you.

was. Last

11/5

You will certainly be glad
to refresh your memory
and I propose to ask
the S of S to let me

thing you

spoke

in

share

you like

to pass

Yours sincerely

John Lubbock

INDIA OFFICE
WHITEHALL S

And you those of an
 printed papers which concern
 you. Of course they are
 all confidential and
 mostly 'secret' so you
 would have to treat them
 as such.

I see no reason why

You should not have
 a copy of my opening
 statement, but that must
 depend on Lord George's
 wishes.

I hear you also asked
 about 'Council'. On that
 point you must address
 the Secy of the Commission

13

I am to be examined
on the 21st. Have you
heard when you will
be wanted?

Yrs sincerely
E. J. [Signature]

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

A. 18 Aug. '16 with Treasury Seal
74

II 1916.

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

16. Aug. 1916.

Dear Duff.

I am going to near Bognor
tomorrow & my address will be
the Thatched House
Aldwicks
near Bognor. I am not.

& the telephone number is 115
Bognor.

I forgot to ask you one thing yesterday.
As I live in the country, I presume
that as I shall be allowed travelling
& detention allowance if I have to
travel in town. Will you kindly
tell me how they will be paid -

Yours sincerely,
John Wilson

yesterday

to see

mission.

s week.

be so

time

ou

N.B.

STATION, BATTLE 3 MILES.
TEL. 1X3 BATTLE.

12. Aug. 1916.

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLSCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

Dear Sir.

You will, I hope, have understood why I wrote as I did, in reply to your telegram, as I could not make out why you write, not knowing you were the Trustee of the Commission & I hope you will forgive me if I am not addressing this correctly to you.

As you say you could come down on Tuesday, I presumed it will suit you as well if I come up on that day & I would call on you about 12 noon at the local Government Board office. Would you my kind telephone me on Monday or wire.

I have a long standing engagement on Wednesday & have to go to Bognor

Wri
12.30
Time over
OFT

Wri

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLESCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

16

THE MANOR HOUSE,
SEDLESCOMBE,
SUSSEX.

on Thursday for a week.

I am not too fit, and avoid
London as much as I can.

Yours sincerely,
John Lubbock.

August 11 1916.

Copy

MESOPOTAMIA COMMISSION

Dear Sir,

With reference to my telegram to you of yesterday and your reply.

I have been desired by the above Commission to see you in reference to giving evidence before that Commission. It is impossible for me to come down and see you this week. and I think it would be more convenient if you could be so good as to see me at the Local Government Board some time on Monday afternoon next. If this is impossible for you I will endeavour to come down and see you on Tuesday next at Sedlescombe or Tunbridge Wells, if you will tell me what train and time will be most convenient.

Perhaps you will kindly let me know by Monday morning which plan you decide on.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully

R. G. S. [Signature]
Secretary to the Commission

To General Sir J. Nixon

~~Tunbridge Wells.~~

*Sedlescombe
W. Battle Sussex*

80
END.

August 10 /16

COPY OF TELEGRAM.

General Nixon,

3 or 4. Mount Ephraim. Tunbridge Wells.

Could I possible see you at Local Government Board any
time before 4 tomorrow or on Monday as to giving evidence
before Mesopotamia Commission.

DUFF. Local Government Board.