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A. P. Skerwood

Chief Commissioner of Dominion Police
to the Controller, The Royal North West Mounted Police

CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, CANADA.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OTTAWA, June 9th, 1917.

The Comptroller,
The Royal North West Mounted Police,
OTTAWA.

Sir, -

The British Government is co-operating with the Government of the United States in certain prosecutions in connection with conspiracies in that Country, Canada and India, looking to the creation of a rebellion in the latter, and in this connection about ten witnesses are to be brought from India to give evidence at Chicago and San Francisco. A Police Officer, from India, will arrive quite soon in British Columbia, who has complete knowledge of the facts, to complete arrangements for their production. The witnesses, accompanied by another Police Officer, are about to leave, and will probably reach Vancouver within a month. The necessary arrangements for their entry to this Country have been made with the Immigration Authorities. The British authorities desire that when the witnesses reach Vancouver, they should be taken East, at once, and kept some place quietly where they could not be approached by anybody with a view to impairing their usefulness at the trials, particularly are they to be safeguarded from intercourse with other East Indians. The bulk of the witnesses are convicted criminals, the others are charged with crime, so that they can be treated as prisoners. An Officer of the Indian Police will be with them, and after consideration, it has been decided that perhaps Regina would be the best point to take them to, where they would be accessible to the officials of the United States who are conducting the prosecutions. An Immigration Inspector will be with them all the time they are in the Country, so that they may not claim that they had been permitted to land in Canada. Can you arrange with the Commissioner to send an escort to Vancouver to meet the ship on arrival there, and conduct them to Regina, subsequently producing at Chicago such of the witnesses as are required there, and then those required at San Francisco, and at the conclusion of the trials see that they are safely

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safely delivered on board ship for their native land? The Indian Police Officer will accompany them in their travels, but, of course, cannot be charged with the responsibility of their care whilst in this Country. The United States Government, of course, will be responsible from the time they enter United States territory till they are again delivered at our Boundary.

The expense of this service will, of course, be a charge against the British Government.

Please advise me, as soon as you can possibly do so, if this service can be arranged for?

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) A. P. SHERWOOD,

Chief Commissioner of Police.