

Telegram from the Commonwealth Relations Office on Soviet reactions to the situation in India (London, 18 September 1947)

Caption: On 18 September 1947, the Commonwealth Relations Office informs Sir Terence Allen Shone, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to India, about the Soviet reaction to the situation in India. He refers to an article published in the Soviet daily newspaper Pravda in which Yuri Zhukov reports on the communal disturbances affecting India and Pakistan. The Russian journalist believes that this violence is a direct result of the British plan for the partition of India, particularly the division of the Punjab.

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INWARD TELEGRAM

To High Commissioner for
the United Kingdom

From _____

Cypher

Code

Clear

Sent _____

Received _____

No. _____

not ONLY IN THE PUNJAB BUT IN NEIGHBOURING AREAS
HINDERING THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES WRECKING TRAINS AND
MERCILESSLY KILLING QUOTE ALIEN UNQUOTE POPULATIONS.
INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN PAKISTAN IS SAID TO HAVE
ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF DEATHS AT 150000.

4. ZHUKOV CONCLUDES THAT THE LONG SUFFERING POPULATION
OF INDIA WHICH HAS NO GROUNDS FOR CIVIL STRIFE IS
PAYING FOR THE MECHANICAL DIVISIONS OF THE COUNTRY AND
ITS OLD BACKWARDNESS DUE TO IMPERIALIST ENSLAVEMENT.
LATEST AGGRAVATIONS OF RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNAL STRIFE IS OF
ADVANTAGE ONLY TO IMPERIALISTIC CIRCLES WHO ARE SEEKING
ANY PRETEXT FOR IMPOSING THEIR UNMASKED FOR QUOTE
PROTECTION UNQUOTE UPON THE PEOPLES OF INDIA. ENDS.