

N.O. on No. 5555/45-7 19.12.45

EXPRESS LETTER.

S. No. 2.

From

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Sind,
Political & Miscellaneous Department
(Miscellaneous).

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department, New Delhi.

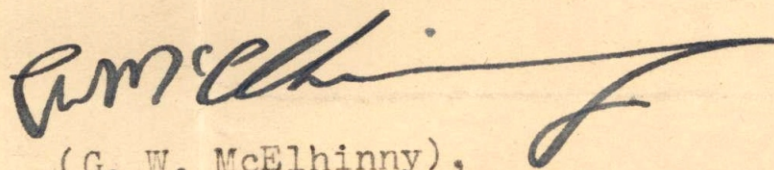
SUBJECT:- Tidal wave havoc.

No. 824-M/42.

Karachi, 11th December 1945.

201-2/45
Reference this Government telegram
No. 824-M/42, dated 6th December 1945, on
the subject noted above.

2. I am to enclose a copy of this
Government Press Note dated 10th December 1945
which gives the latest information regarding
the damage caused by the recent tidal wave
in Sind. Further reports will follow.



(G. W. McElhinny),
Chief Secretary to Government.

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Reports have now been received from the Collector who was instructed to inspect the area in the Karachi district affected by the tidal wave which followed the recent earthquake, which make it possible to form a clearer idea of the damage which occurred. Fortunately it appears that the early reports as to the loss of life emanating from Ibrahim Hyderi, a village which suffered no damage although some of its inhabitants who had gone further down the coast for fishing purposes were drowned, were greatly exaggerated.

The Collector estimates the total loss of life in the Tatta Sub-Division at 106 deaths by drowning and it is to be hoped that the total casualties both in that Sub-division and in the Shahbunder Sub-division will not exceed 250, but exact figures cannot be made available for some time.

The loss of property is however considerable. Houses have been destroyed; stocks of grain and fish, clothing and domestic utensils have been lost and many fishing nets - the replacement of which will be a difficult matter - have also been swept away.

Action measures have already been taken to give immediate relief in the shape of the distribution of food and clothing and steps will now be taken to provide money for the rebuilding of houses and the replacement of nets and fishing gear. Remission of land revenue will be allowed to zamindars who have lost their produce and the money necessary for the rehabilitation of the affected areas and for the setting of the inhabitants on their feet again will be provided by Government in the shape of free relief. For this purpose a detailed survey of the area, village by village, is being made. But owing to the inaccessibility of the tract and the pooriness of communications there, the completion of the survey will take some time.