

CONFIDENTIAL

~~WG 10/21~~

*This file to be  
issued to  
Secretariat only  
Not to be in  
Confidential cupboard*

COM / 1 / 21

*PW  
17.9.85*

COM / 1 / 21

SIR. JOHN SHUTE. C.M.G. D.S.O. T.D.

CWGC Archives

Item: WG 10/21

Catalogue no.: 1048

Box 1132

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)



10 NOV 1961

Mr. Holt <sup>O.S.A.</sup> 2

Sir John Shute does not appear to have had a copy of the 'Immortal Heritage'

Captain Tyrrell <sup>Y.Y.</sup> a/s 3

Khi 20.5.43.

Letter written to Sir John Shute today

O.S.A. 20.5.43

Requesting Please P.A.

308<sup>th</sup> Meeting

20.10.48

DEATH OF SIR JOHN SHUTE AND SIR JOHN KENNEDY

The CHAIRMAN said that he had received kind and grateful letters from Mrs. Douglas, Sir John Shute's Sister, and Lady Kennedy, to whom he had written after the last Meeting to convey the Commission's sympathy.

SB/WFR

P.A.S.

WG. 10/21

Hargreaves Buildings,  
5, Chapel Street,  
Liverpool. 3.

Chief Administrative Officer., 20/9/48  
U.K. District.

Late Colonel Sir John Shute.

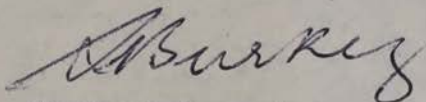
Further to this office letter of the 14th inst., and in reply to your wire, received at Co. Durham on the 14th inst.,

I have to report that I attended the ceremony at the Pro-Cathedral, Liverpool, at 11.a.m. on Thursday the 16th inst., to represent THE IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION.

I attach a cutting from the Liverpool Daily Post 17.9.48.

The Wreath was supplied by Messrs. Fishlock Bros, of Liverpool. Their invoice has now arrived for £6.6.0.

I await your authority for this payment please.



Regional Inspector.  
Northern U.K. District.

17.9.48.

CAO  
UIC

20/9/48

Some thanks you - Please advise  
Exp. and let Ch. Acc<sup>t</sup> see - JWS

20.9.48

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES  
COMMISSION  
RECEIVED  
20 SEP 1948

# SIR JOHN SHUTE

## Pro-Cathedral service

THE Archbishop of Liverpool (Dr. R. Downey) attended with members of the Chapter, at the Solemn Requiem Mass in Liverpool Pro-Cathedral yesterday for Colonel Sir John Shute, who died on Monday.

The celebrant was Canon Joseph H. Kelly, and the panegyric was given by Dean W. Grace, joint secretary of the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral.

The Dean said that many of Sir John's good works were performed in secret. The alleviation of human suffering found him a generous and enthusiastic supporter, and when one realised the extent of his business interests, the time and energy he still found for public service was amazing.

Members of the family present included Major Mark Shute, Mrs. M. F. Lyst, Mrs. A. J. McGilloway, Mrs. E. M. Douglas, Lieutenant I. G. A. Douglas, R.N., Mr. J. Craigie Williams, Mr. Harold Craigie Williams, Mr. R. McGilloway, and Miss Gina Doig.

Miss Mary Jones, ex-matron of the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, and Miss C. A. Brindle, Sir John's private secretary, were also with the family representatives.

### Civic Representatives

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman W. T. Lancashire) was present with the Mayor of Birkenhead (Councillor W. E. Power), the Mayor of Wallasey (Alderman J. L. Gill), Alderman A. E. Shennan, Alderman Luke Hogan, the Town-clerk of Liverpool (Mr. T. Alker), and the Chief Constable of Liverpool (Mr. C. C. Martin).

Others who attended were:—Lord and Lady Seton, Captain B. T. Richards representing Lord Derby, Sir John and Lady Reynolds, Sir Francis and Lady Joseph, Sir John McKaig, Sir Raymond Jones, Bishop Grosvenor Jones, the Liverpool Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. A. McFarland), the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University (Dr. J. F. Mountford), Professor Henry Cohen, Colonel Vere Cotton, Lieut.-Colonel A. Buckley, Lieut.-Colonel R. V. Jenkins representing Lord Leverhulme; the Hon. Roger Marquis representing Lord Woolton; Mr. H. B. Chrimes, representing Sir Bertram Chrimes; Mr. R. J. Hodges, general manager and secretary Mersey Docks and Harbour Board; Mr. W. S. S. Hannay, chairman of Liverpool Chamber of Commerce; Mr. H. Graham White, P.C.; Mr. J. D. Little, junior, president of Liverpool Cotton Association; Mr. and Mrs. Allan Jeans, Mr. John Macleay, Mr. Bertram B. Bens, Anglo-Jewish Association; Mr. A. Bryce Muir, Mr. John Beavan, Mr. Francis Weld, Mr. T. W. B. Broadbent, Liverpool Council of Social Service; Mr. W. J. L. Rushworth, Liverpool Playhouse Directorate; Miss Maud Carpenter, Mr. John Fernald; Major M. H. M. Dynes, representing Major-General A. D. Ward and officers of the King's Regiment (Liverpool); Captain B. T. Richards, representing all ranks, 5th Battalion, King's Regiment (Liverpool); Colonel T. A. Williams representing 5th Battalion, King's Regiment (Liverpool); Comrades' Association; Mr. W. H. Home, representing Sir James O'Dowda and the North-West Council, British Legion; Colonel S. T. J. Perry, County of Lancaster Rifle Association; and Major E. L. Hennessey, representing Colonel C. G. Moore, chairman, West Lancashire County Cadet Committee.

Organisations represented included the National Association of Boys' Clubs, Liverpool Boys' Association, National Committee of Catholic Guides, Liverpool Child Welfare Association, Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs, Liverpool Youth Organisations Committee, Liverpool Cotton Clerks' Society, Catholic Young Men's Society, Brunswick Boys' Club, Boy Scouts' Association, Probation Officers, Green Room A.D.S., Air Training Corps, Liverpool University Conservative Association, Florence Institute for Boys, Boalader Club, North Western Area Conservative and Unionist Association, Royal Liverpool United Hospital, Royal Infirmary, Gordon Smith Institute, Imperial War Graves Commission, Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, Lancashire Cotton Corporation, British Cotton Growing Association, and the Boys' Dinner Hour Club.

307<sup>th</sup> Meeting - 16.9.48

DEATH OF COLONEL SIR JOHN SHUTE, CMG, DSO, TD, JP, DL.

Sir John Shute had been a Member of the Commission and of the Finance Committee since April 1943. Throughout the period of his membership, his valuable advice and exceptionally wide experience had always been at the Commission's disposal; he had never been too busy to devote his time and energy to the consideration of any question that might be put to him. He was particularly interested in the welfare of the staff, who deeply appreciated his accessibility and sympathetic understanding of their problems. His wise counsel and cheerful presence would be greatly missed by all Members of the Commission.

The CHAIRMAN then moved the following Resolution, which was carried unanimously:

2. That the Commission record their deep sorrow at the death of Colonel Sir John Shute, CMG, DSO, TD, JP, DL., a Member of the Commission and of the Finance Committee since 1943. They recall with gratitude his readiness to place unstintedly at their disposal his time and the benefit of his wide experience, and the particular interest which he showed in any question affecting the welfare and happiness of their staff. They desire to express to his sister their profound sympathy.

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)



16th September, 1948.

*Dear Mrs Douglas*

At the 307th Meeting of the Imperial War Graves Commission, held today, tribute was paid to the memory of your brother, Colonel Sir John Shute. The following Resolution, which was moved from the Chair, was carried unanimously and the members afterwards stood in silence.

That the Commission record their deep sorrow at the death of Colonel Sir John Shute, CMG, DSO, TD, JP, DL., a Member of the Commission and of the Finance Committee since 1943. They recall with gratitude his readiness to place unstintedly at their disposal his time and the benefit of his wide experience, and the particular interest which he showed in any question affecting the welfare and happiness of their staff. They desire to express to his sister their profound sympathy.

/In

In conveying this Resolution to you  
I should like to express my own deep sense of  
gratitude to a good friend and colleague.

*Yours sincerely*  
*MDN*

Mrs. Douglas,  
Rivacre,  
HOOTON,  
Ches hire.

16th September, 1948.

My dear Editor,

My colleagues on the Imperial War  
Graves Commission and I would be most  
grateful if you could find space for the  
enclosed short addition to your recent  
obituary notice of Sir John Shute. Sir John  
was such a warm supporter of our work that  
I feel that his deep interest in it should  
be placed on record.

*Yours sincerely*  
*W.S.C.*

---

W.S. Casey, Esq.,  
"The Times,"  
Printing House Square,  
London,  
E.C.4.

May I add to your notice of Sir John Shute a brief tribute to his work as a Member of the Imperial War Graves Commission? Among his many interests, which you have so fully recorded, the worthy commemoration of the dead occupied an important place in his heart. He joined the Commission in 1943, becoming a Member of their Finance Committee in the same year, and throughout the five years of his membership his valuable advice and exceptionally wide experience were always at the Commission's disposal. He was particularly interested in the welfare of the Commission's staff at home and overseas, who deeply appreciated his kindness and accessibility. His practical counsel in Committee will be as greatly missed as his cheerful and friendly manner on informal occasions. The Commission at their meeting this morning unanimously passed a resolution placing on record their deep sorrow at his passing and paying a warm tribute to his memory.

16th. September. 1948.

# REYNOLDS & GIBSON

(FOUNDED 1810)

## PARTNERS

COL. SIR JOHN SHUTE, C.M.G. D.S.O.  
SIR JOHN REYNOLDS, BART., M.B.E.  
F. LESLIE ORME, O.B.E.  
E. ROBERT ORME

## MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGES

COTTON { LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK, NEW ORLEANS,  
ALEXANDRIA (MEMBRES CORRESPONDANTS)  
GRAIN { LIVERPOOL (SUBSCRIBER BROKERS),  
CHICAGO AND WINNIPEG  
METALS, RUBBER, } LONDON AND NEW YORK  
SUGAR, COCOA }  
WOOL, COFFEE, SILK, HIDES: NEW YORK

WG. 10/21.

HEAD OFFICE,  
30, EXCHANGE STREET EAST,  
LIVERPOOL, 2.  
TELEGRAMS: REYNOLDS, LIVERPOOL  
TELEPHONE:  
CENTRAL 3721.

ALSO AT  
238, ROYAL EXCHANGE,  
MANCHESTER, 2.  
TELEGRAMS: REGIMEN, MANCHESTER.  
TELEPHONES: BLACKFRIARS 0175/7.

AND AT  
TEMPORARY ADDRESS  
37, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.  
TELEGRAMS: REYGIB, BILGATE, LONDON.  
TELEPHONE: MANSION HOUSE 4906.

JMcI/DS

LIVERPOOL. 14th September 1948.

The Secretary,  
Imperial War Graves Commission,  
32 Grosvenor Gardens,  
LONDON S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

We regretfully refer to your notice to Colonel Sir John Shute re the 307th meeting on the 16th September 1948, and presume you have, by now, learned that Colonel Sir John Shute died on the 13th September 1948.

Yours truly,

REYNOLDS & GIBSON

*for J. M. McInerney*



1. FRO # 15/9
2. M. T. Thorton 8/15/9
3. Miss Nalme Km 15/9

*To see, please*

*ODH*

15.9.48

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

Times.

14.9.48

R 14 1948

## COL. SIR JOHN SHUTE

### PHILANTHROPY AND BUSINESS

Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., D.L., J.P., formerly M.P. for the Exchange Division of Liverpool, and one of the leading figures in the cotton industry, died yesterday at his home at Hooton, Cheshire.

John Joseph Shute was born in Liverpool and was educated privately and at the Catholic Institute in Liverpool. Entering the cotton broking firm of Reynolds and Gibson, he made rapid progress, and early reached a position of responsibility by discovering and rectifying a series of far-reaching and alarming irregularities which had involved the house in serious losses. As he increased in wealth and prestige he sought means of spending money wisely, and was attracted to two causes in particular—philanthropic work for children and the repertory theatre movement. He became chairman of the Liverpool Juvenile Organization Committee, the Liverpool Boys' Association, and the Liverpool Playing Fields Committee, and chairman and treasurer of the Liverpool Open-Air Hospital for Children at Leasowe.

Shute's history is closely bound up with the fortunes of the Liverpool Repertory Theatre (later renamed the Playhouse), which would never have been able to pursue its successful course without his frequent and generous aid given in the shape of wise counsel, loans, and guarantees. It was Shute and Professor Sir Charles Reilly who, in the spring of 1911, carried through the negotiations for the purchase of the Old Star Theatre (then devoted to melodrama) and its conversion to repertory. He was vice-chairman of the first board of directors, and succeeded Reilly as chairman in 1913. He also founded the Shute Lecture-ship in Drama in Liverpool University. As early as 1895 Shute had joined the 1st Volunteer Battalion of The King's (Liverpool Regiment). Commercial life was therefore necessarily abandoned in August, 1914, and in the following February Shute went to France as second in command of his battalion. He was five times mentioned in dispatches, rose to the command of his battalion, was awarded the D.S.O. in 1916, and was made a C.M.G. in 1918. After becoming honorary colonel of the 2nd Divisional R.A.S.C. (T.F.) he retired from the Army in 1923 with the rank of colonel.

Returning to his civil occupations after the war, Shute extended his contacts and interests, commercial and philanthropic. He succeeded Sir James Reynolds as head of Reynolds and Gibson, travelled widely in Europe, the United States, and Africa, and became chairman of Combined Egyptian Mills, Limited, trustee and member of the executive of the Empire Cotton Growing Association, chairman of the United Trades Association of Liverpool, and president of the Liverpool Cotton Association. In 1933 he was elected to Parliament in the Conservative interest as member for the Exchange Division of Liverpool, and was knighted in 1935. He was a warm advocate of international cooperation, and acted for many years as chairman of the Liverpool branch of the League of Nations Union and of the British Legion. The extraordinary breadth of his interests is still further shown by his occupancy of the chairs of the Liverpool Aero Club and the Liverpool Nurses' Home, his committee membership of the board of the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, and his joint honorary treasurership of the Metropolitan (Roman Catholic) Cathedral of Liverpool. He was unmarried.

**SHUTE.**—On Sept. 13, 1948, at "Rivacre," Hooton, Cheshire. COLONEL SIR JOHN J. SHUTE, C.M.G., D.S.O. Funeral, quietly, to-morrow (Wednesday), at 10.30 a.m., at St. Mary of the Angels Church, Hooton. Memorial service at the Pro-Cathedral, Copperas Hill, Liverpool, on Thursday, Sept. 16, at 11 a.m.

**SKERBY.**—On Sept. 13, 1948, at Epsom, suddenly.

W.G. 10/21.

22nd April 1948.

AIR MAIL.

My dear Buller,

The following cable was despatched to you yesterday:-

"IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION  
NAIROBI.

TWENTY FIRST APRIL FOR BULLER FROM  
HIGGINSON STOP SIR JOHN SHUTE ARRIVING  
MOMBASA LLANGYBI CASTLE SECOND WEEK MAY  
ON BUSINESS VISIT KENYA UGANDA TANGANYIKA  
STOP WISHES TAKE OPPORTUNITY SEE SOME WAR  
GRAVES YOUR AREA STOP GRATEFUL IF POSSIBLE  
MEET AND PROVIDE INFORMATION STOP LETTER  
FOLLOWS"

Sir John is, as you know, a Member of the Commission and takes a close interest in all phases of our work. He commanded an infantry battalion in the 1914/18 war and was, for some years, an M.P. On his business trip, he wishes to see some of the more accessible war cemeteries in your Area and he will, I know, be most grateful if you can arrange to meet him at Mombasa and give him a general picture of our work and problems in East Africa.

Yours sincerely,

Colonel F.E. Buller, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.,  
Imperial War Graves Commission,  
East Africa Area,  
P.O. Box 2,000, Nairobi,

KENYA

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

# REYNOLDS & GIBSON

(FOUNDED 1810)

## PARTNERS

COL. SIR JOHN SHUTE, C.M.G. D.S.O.  
SIR JOHN REYNOLDS, BART., M.B.E.  
F. LESLIE ORME, O.B.E.  
E. ROBERT ORME

## MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGES

COTTON { LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK, NEW ORLEANS,  
ALEXANDRIA (MEMBERS CORRESPONDANTS)  
GRAIN { LIVERPOOL (SUBSCRIBER BROKERS),  
CHICAGO AND WINNIPEG  
METALS, RUBBER, } LONDON AND NEW YORK  
SUGAR, COCOA }  
WOOL, COFFEE, SILK, HIDES: NEW YORK

A 29. (General file E.A.)  
HEAD OFFICE,  
30, EXCHANGE STREET EAST,  
LIVERPOOL, 2.  
TELEGRAMS: REYNOLDS, LIVERPOOL.  
TELEPHONE:  
CENTRAL 3721.

ALSO AT  
238, ROYAL EXCHANGE,  
MANCHESTER, 2.  
TELEGRAMS: REGIMEN, MANCHESTER.  
TELEPHONES: BLACKFRIARS 0175/7.

AND AT  
TEMPORARY ADDRESS  
37, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.  
TELEGRAMS: REYGIB, BILGATE, LONDON.  
TELEPHONE: MANSION HOUSE 4905.

LIVERPOOL. 20th April 1948.

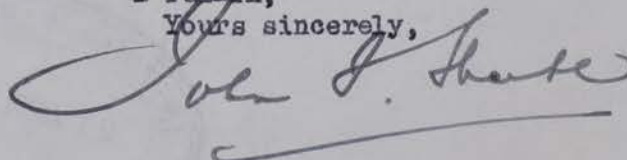
Dear Mr. King,

As I informed the Vice-Chairman at the Finance Committee Meeting last week, I am proceeding to East Africa on a business trip next Thursday, and therefore, having to settle a great number of things here before leaving, I told the Vice-Chairman I wished to be excused from attending the full Commission Meeting on the 22nd, and he agreed.

Whilst writing, as I shall be going to Tanganyika, Uganda and Nairobi, Kenya, would you be good enough to let me know where any of the Graves are, for which we are responsible in those various Territories, and who is the particular Official in charge in case I am able to get round to see them which I should like to do.

Thanks in anticipation for your reply,

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,



E. J. King Esq., M.C.



REYNOLDS & GIBSON

LIVERPOOL, 21st April 1948.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the above-mentioned matter. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to provide the information requested. I have, however, endeavoured to obtain the information from the records available to me and have been successful in doing so. I have, therefore, attached to this letter a copy of the information which I have obtained. I hope that this will be of assistance to you.

I am, Sir, very truly yours,



W.G.10/21.

24th May 1943.

Sir,

I am directed by the Imperial War Graves Commission to inform you that at their 249th Meeting held in London on the 19th May, 1943, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Duffy and carried unanimously:

That the Commission having considered a paper No.F.58/2 dated the 22nd April 1943 resolve: That Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C., K.C.B., and Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.P., be appointed members of the Finance Committee.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

  
VICE-CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY.

Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.  
Messrs Reynolds & Gibson,  
30, Exchange Street East,  
Liverpool, 2.

W.G.10/21.

Reference: ~~W.G.1831/191.~~  
~~F.58/2.~~

ASSISTANT SECRETARY, FINANCE.

Please note that at the 249th Meeting of the Commission held yesterday, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Duffy and agreed:

4. That the Commission having considered a paper No.F.58/2 dated the 22nd April 1943 resolve: That Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C.,K.C.B., and Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.P., be appointed members of the Finance Committee.

*WTC*

VICE-CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY.

20th May 1943.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

4.  
F.58/2.

249TH MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 19TH MAY 1943.  
-----

MEMBERSHIP OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Two vacancies on the Finance Committee require to be filled. One has been caused by the departure of Sir Patrick Spens from this country to take up his appointment as Chief Justice of India; the other by the resignation from the Commission of Admiral Sir Howard Kelly owing to continued absence abroad on official duty.

Admiral Dunbar-Nasmith and Sir John Shute have been appointed members of the Commission by Royal Warrant in succession to Admiral Kelly and Sir Patrick Spens, and they have both consented to serve on the Finance Committee.

The following resolution is therefore suggested:

That the Commission having considered a paper No.F.58/2 dated the 22nd April 1943 resolve: That Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C., K.C.B., and Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.P., be appointed members of the Finance Committee.

22nd April 1943.

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

For publication Friday, May 14th 1943.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, President of the Imperial War Graves Commission, has been pleased to approve the appointment of Colonel Eric Gore Browne, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., to be a Trustee of the Imperial War Graves Endowment Fund to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of General the Honourable Sir Herbert Lawrence, G.C.B.

Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C., K.C.B., and Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.P., have been appointed by Royal Warrant members of the Commission. They succeed respectively Admiral Sir Howard Kelly, G.B.E., K.C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., who has resigned on account of continued absence abroad on official duty and Sir Patrick Spens, O.B.E., K.C., who has recently been appointed Chief Justice of India.

V. C. Kept  
Sir John Shute's letter

Personal & Confidential

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXX  
Wooburn House,  
Wooburn Green,  
Bucks.

28th April 1944.

My dear Sir John,

Thank you very much for your letter. Yes I have seen Ralph Glyn's question and reply in Hansard (Wednesday, April 26th). The main difficulty in arranging anything of the sort you suggest is the terrific overwork in our office owing to the man-power question. I live in fear of a breakdown among the staff. So far I have been able to send important people like Higginson off for a bit of leave before that happens. But let me think a little about your suggestion and then talk to you. As a matter of policy, is there not a danger of stirring up criticism in holding anything like a meeting for discussion? I gave them a straightforward talk after the last war and they asked questions.

Do you think it would be wise to encourage a sort of debate, e.g. headstones? Do you think there is any uneasiness in the H. of C?

Yours very sincerely,

F.W.

Colonel Sir John Shute, C.M.G., D.S.O., J.P., M.P.,  
Messrs Reynolds & Gibson,  
30, Exchange Street East,  
Liverpool, 2.

Registy

Please

RA.

OSF.

6.7.44

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

EXTRACT from Hansard (House of Commons) Wednesday, 26th  
April, 1944.

---

WRITTEN ANSWERS.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION.

SIR R. GLYN asked the Secretary of State for War whether he will consider the importance of issuing an Interim Report by the War Graves Commission as to what action has been taken since the war began to provide and maintain cemeteries.

SIR J. GRIGG: The Annual Report of the Imperial War Graves Commission covering their activities up to 31st March, 1943, was published in January 1944, and I am not aware that a further report is called for at the present time. In all theatres of war Graves Registration Units of the Army are engaged in searching for and registering the graves of the dead, ensuring that no dead are left unburied, and in some cases concentrating isolated graves into suitable cemeteries. In certain areas that are no longer theatres of operations, such as North Africa, the Imperial War Graves Commission, who will in due course take over all cemeteries in all theatres for permanent maintenance, are already taking over cemeteries.

---

TEL.: BOURNE END 594.



IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION,

WOOBURN HOUSE,

WOOBURN GREEN,

HIGH WYCOMBE,

BUCKS.

*London Office :*

32, GROSVENOR GARDENS,

LONDON, S.W.1.

Ref. ....

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)



BG

Ref: WG 10/20  
WG 10/21

19th April 1943.

Your Ref: 45/General/5070 (C.2 a)

Sir,

I am directed by the Imperial War Graves Commission to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of the 16th instant transmitting the Royal Warrants under the Sign Manual appointing Admiral Sir Martin Dunbar-Nasmith, V.C., K.C.B., and Colonel Sir John Joseph Shute, Kt., C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., to be Members of the Imperial War Graves Commission in place of Admiral Sir William Archibald Howard Kelly, G.B.E., K.C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., and Sir William Patrick Spens, Kt., O.B.E., K.C., respectively.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

*W.A.S.*

The Under-Secretary of State,  
The War Office,  
London, S.W.1.

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

*per Chief Marshal Sir*  
Warrant appointing [Colonel Sir John Joseph Shute, Kt.,  
*Arthur Murray*, *D.S.O.*,  
C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., M.P., D.L., J.P.] to be a Member  
of the Imperial War Graves Commission.

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

*The Sign Manual*

*copy (as amended)  
of original.*

G E O R G E   T H E   S I X T H, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India:

To Our trusty and well beloved Sir <sup>ARTHUR MURPHY Longmore</sup> John Joseph Shute, Knight <sup>Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath</sup> Bachelor, Companion of Our Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Companion of Our Distinguished Service Order, <sup>Av. Chief Marshal</sup> on whom has been conferred the Territorial Decoration, ~~Member of~~ Parliament, ~~Deputy-Lieutenant for the County of Lancaster,~~ ~~Justice of the Peace,~~ Colonel retired from Our Territorial Army,

G R E E T I N G:

W H E R E A S His late Majesty King George the Fifth did by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm, bearing date at Westminster the Twenty-first day of May in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventeen and in the eighth year of His said late Majesty's Reign, create, constitute and establish by Royal Charter (hereinafter referred to as the Original Charter) a Body Corporate by the name of "The Imperial War Graves Commission":

A N D W H E R E A S by the Original Charter it was ordained that the Members of the said Commission should consist of the President and the Official Members therein designated, and such other persons, not exceeding the number of eight in all, as might from time to time be appointed Members by Royal Warrant under the Sign Manual of the Sovereign for the time being:

A N D W H E R E A S by Supplemental Charter bearing date at Westminster the Seventh day of February in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-one and in the fifth year of Our Reign We did ordain ~~(inter alia)~~ that the number nine should be substituted for the number eight in the Original Charter as the number of such other persons as might from time to time be appointed Members by Royal Warrant as aforesaid:

A N D W H E R E A S His late Majesty King George the Fifth did by Royal Warrant under the Sign Manual constitute and appoint Our trusty and well beloved Sir William Patrick Spens, Knight Bachelor, Officer of Our Most Excellent Order of the British

Empire, one of Our Counsel learned in the law, lately appointed by Us to be Our Chief Justice of India, to be, with the persons named in the Original Charter and with the other persons duly appointed, a Member of the said Commission:

N O W K N O W Y O U that We do by these presents revoke the said appointment of the said Sir William Patrick Spens, Kt., O.B.E., K.C., to be a Member of the said Commission:

A N D ~~FURTHER~~ K N O W Y O U that We have thought fit to constitute and appoint and We do ~~hereby~~ by this Our Royal Warrant under Our Sign Manual constitute and appoint you, the said <sup>An Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Murray K.C.B.</sup> Colonel Sir John Joseph Shute, Kt., C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., <sup>D.S.O.</sup> ~~H.P., B.L., J.P.~~ to be, with the persons named in the Original Charter and with the other persons duly appointed, a Member of the Imperial War Graves Commission, with the powers and authorities and subject to the directions and orders contained in the Original Charter.

GIVEN at Our Court at St. James's

this ~~eleventh~~ day of ~~April~~

in the ~~seventh~~ year of Our Reign

and in the year of Our Lord

One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-three.

*sgd P. J. O'Connell*

# REYNOLDS & GIBSON.

(FOUNDED 1810)

## PARTNERS,

COL. SIR JOHN SHUTE, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.P.  
FRANCIS R. VERDON.  
SIR JOHN REYNOLDS, BART.  
AUSTIN LIGHTBOUND.  
F. LESLIE ORME.  
E. ROBERT ORME.

MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGES,  
COTTON { LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK, NEW ORLEANS,  
ALEXANDRIA, (MEMBERS CORRESPONDANTS)  
GRAIN { LIVERPOOL, (SUBSCRIBER BROKERS)  
CHICAGO AND WINNIPEG,  
METALS, RUBBER, } LONDON AND NEW YORK  
SUGAR, COCOA,  
WOOL, COFFEE, SILK, HIDES: NEW YORK

HEAD OFFICE,  
30, EXCHANGE STREET EAST,  
LIVERPOOL, 2.  
TELEGRAMS, REYNOLDS, LIVERPOOL.  
TEMPORARY TELEPHONE NO  
ADVANCE 1556.

ALSO AT  
238, ROYAL EXCHANGE,  
MANCHESTER, 2.  
TELEGRAMS, REGIMEN, MANCHESTER  
TELEPHONES, BLACKFRIARS 0175/7.

AND AT  
TEMPORARY ADDRESS  
37, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.  
TELEGRAMS, REYGIB, BILGATE, LONDON.  
TELEPHONE, MANSION HOUSE 4906.

LIVERPOOL.

5<sup>th</sup> January 1943

Dear Sir Fabian

Many thanks for your letter  
of 30 which came to hand yesterday & to  
which I hasten to reply. I am fully  
in accord with what you write & will  
seek out Mr Spens in the House  
as soon as it meets which will be in  
a fortnight & find out what will be  
a convenient place & date for us both  
to meet you good self. & will let you  
know at once.

With renewed good wishes for New Year  
to you & all your hopes & desires

Yours sincerely  
John J. Shute

seen  
WJR  
7/1/43

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

2nd January 1942.

Dear Sir John,

I was fortunate in getting a week's (well earned) leave at Christmas and that is why I have not answered your letter of December 24th earlier. It reached me while I was on leave and did much to make that little interlude happy and restful. I have since then discussed the matter with our Chairman (Secretary of State for War), with Mr. W.P. Spens (the retiring Commissioner) and others, and we all agreed that we want your collaboration and shall be fortunate to get it.

It is not yet certain when Mr. Spens will be leaving to take up his appointment in India and he may be in England for the next two months. If that is so, I would suggest that your appointment should take place some time in March. It is made by Royal Warrant under the Sign Manual, for which we have of course to apply in the proper way. If, therefore, it would suit you, I would suggest that when Parliament meets again we should arrange for the three of us, you and Spens and myself, to have a talk at the House or anywhere convenient to you. Mr. Spens has been a Commissioner for the last eleven years, is extremely keen on the work and full of knowledge about it, and he is at present helping me with several rather important changes we are making.

Thank you for the encouraging things you say about our work. In many ways we feel we are being given a good start for the New Year, and all my good wishes are with you.

Yours sincerely  
F.W.

Colonel Sir John Shute,  
C.M.G., D.S.O., M.P.,  
Messrs Reynolds & Gibson,  
30 Exchange Street East,  
LIVERPOOL 2.

ms Holt

Thank you,

ms 4/1/43

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

# REYNOLDS & GIBSON.

(FOUNDED 1810)

## PARTNERS.

COL. SIR JOHN SHUTE, C.M.G., D.S.O., M.P.  
FRANCIS R. VERDON.  
SIR JOHN REYNOLDS, BART.  
AUSTIN LIGHTBOUND.  
F. LESLIE ORME.  
E. ROBERT ORME.

## MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGES.

COTTON: { LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK, NEW ORLEANS,  
ALEXANDRIA, (MEMBERS CORRESPONDANTS)  
GRAIN { LIVERPOOL, (SUBSCRIBER BROKERS)  
CHICAGO AND WINNIPEG.  
METALS, RUBBER, } LONDON AND NEW YORK  
SUGAR, COCOA: }  
WOOL, COFFEE, SILK, HIDES: NEW YORK

HEAD OFFICE,  
30, EXCHANGE STREET EAST,  
LIVERPOOL, 2.  
TELEGRAMS, REYNOLDS, LIVERPOOL.  
TEMPORARY TELEPHONE NO.  
ADVANCE 1556.

ALSO AT  
238, ROYAL EXCHANGE,  
MANCHESTER, 2.  
TELEGRAMS, REGIMEN, MANCHESTER  
TELEPHONES, BLACKFRIARS 0175/7.

AND AT  
TEMPORARY ADDRESS  
37, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.  
TELEGRAMS, REYGIB, BILGATE, LONDON.  
TELEPHONE, MANSION HOUSE 4906.

LIVERPOOL. Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 1914

Dear Sir Fabian

I have given careful consideration to the tentative suggestion you so courteously put before me, relative to a possible vacancy that may, in the somewhat near future, occur, in the Executive of the Imperial War Graves Commission.

I would esteem it a privilege to serve under you on such Commission, and to take my part in carrying on the great work which has meant so much to the families or friends of our fallen comrades. I may say I have personally visited on more than one occasion the principal cemeteries in France & Belgium, so many of my old Officers, some having been laid to rest over there, & realized the magnificent organization which must have been behind this work.

I will await at your convenience any further news from you, but meanwhile I want to say how greatly I appreciate your approach on the matter & may I take this opportunity of wishing you all the joys of Xmas & many happier New Years.

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)

Personal &  
Confidential 15th December 1942.

Dear Sir John,

I saw the Cardinal this afternoon immediately after you and he advised me to consult you on a point that has arisen in connection with the Imperial War Graves Commission. Ten minutes or a quarter of an hour with you (I would not keep you longer) would be very useful to me at present.

Is it possible to arrange a meeting either at the Commission's office at 32 Grosvenor Gardens, or at the House of Commons, or anywhere else convenient to you. Any time between 10.30 and 12.30 or between 2 and 4 in the afternoon is the best time for me. A telephone message here to me, or to my Private Secretary (Mr. Holt) would bring me up.

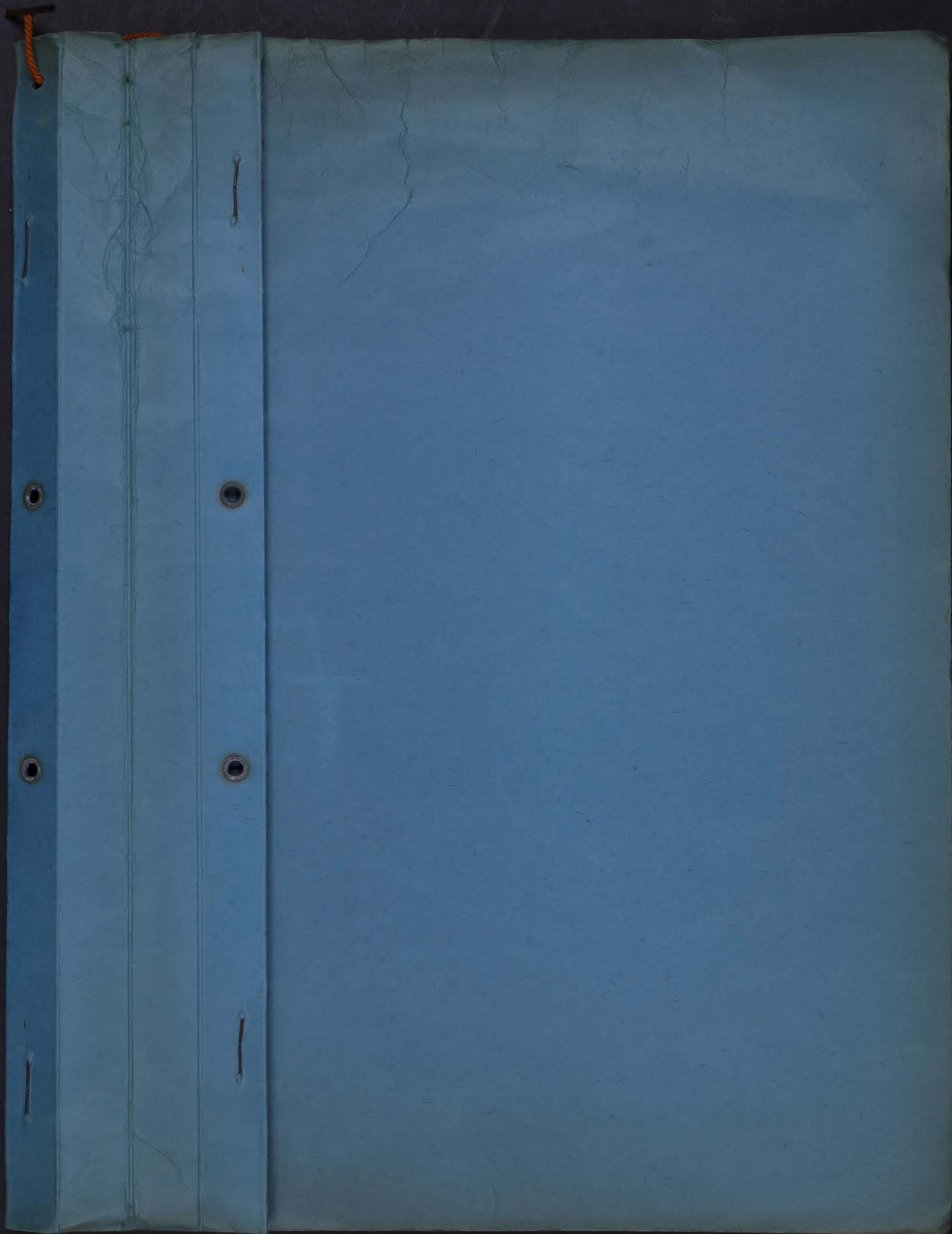
Yours sincerely,

Colonel. Sir John Shute,  
CMG., DSO., JP., MP.,  
House of Commons, S.W.1.

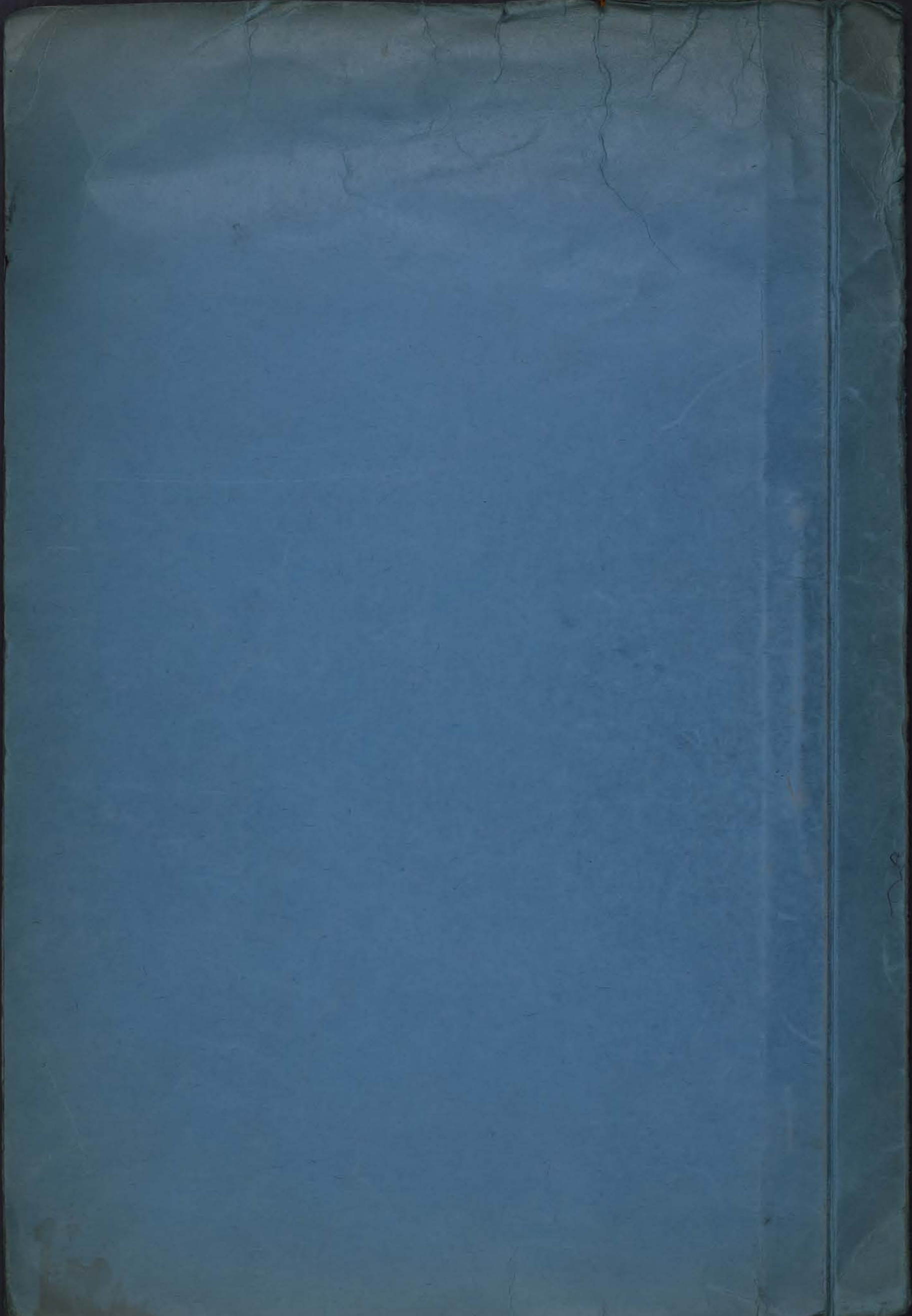
*Fabian Ware*

CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)





CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)



CWGC/1/1/12/21 (WG 10/21)