

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 39

Censoring of messages received from other Departments for transmission over Police Wireless Grid and delivery of outgoing messages.

Instructions have been issued by Government in their Memo. Nos. 9448 (52)-P., dated the 5th May 1949 and 13115 (8)-P., dated the 1st July 1949, copies of which were forwarded to all officers under this office Memo. Nos. 10174 (23)-A., dated the 28th May 1949 and 13418 (2)-S., dated the 19th July 1948, regarding the use of the Police Wireless Grid and the nature of messages that may be transmitted through it. In paragraph (d) of Government (Home) Memo. No. 9448 (52)-P., dated the 15th May 1949, the officers-in-charge of the Wireless Stations and the Superintendents of Police in the districts concerned have been vested with the authority of censoring all messages received for transmission. In order to secure uniformity of practice in the exercise of this authority the following instructions are issued :—

2. All messages should be received by the officer-in-charge of the Wireless Station or in his absence, the senior most officer of the Station present on duty, who will scrutinise them and satisfy himself that they are eligible for transmission before accepting the same. A message which obviously contravenes the instructions of Government should be returned to the originator immediately through the same messenger who brought it. In cases of doubt the officer-in-charge must send the message to the Superintendent of Police or in his absence, to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, who will pass final orders as to whether these messages should be transmitted on the Police Wireless or not. Messages which are disallowed must always be returned to the originators concerned by the officer-in-charge.

3. Messages originating from Commissioners of Divisions, Heads of Departments and other officers of equivalent rank and which are ineligible for transmission should not be returned by the officer-in-charge without reference to the Superintendent of Police or the senior most Police Officer present in headquarters.

Messages must never be received over the telephone under any circumstances whatsoever.

4. All incoming messages which are found to have been transmitted in contravention of the Government instructions should not be withheld from delivery but a report should be sent, enclosing copies of such message to the S. P. T. & S. It will be the duty S. P. T. & S. to make an enquiry to fix responsibility and take suitable action against those found guilty of infringement of the Government instructions.

Delivery of incoming messages meant for other Departments will be the responsibility of the respective Departments. In all places arrangements should be made by other Departments of Government for periodical collection of incoming messages meant for their Departments by their own men. Where telephone facilities exist intimation may be sent over telephone to the addressee by the officer-in-charge of the Wireless Station if the message is in need of immediate delivery.

(Previous Police Circular Order No. 4 of 1950)