

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01123 081055Z

12
ACTION SS-30

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O 080940Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6335

S E C R E T JIDDA 1123

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJECT: JOINT U.S.-SAUDI ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

REF JIDDA 1122

1. PROPOSED MESSAGE TO SAQQAF FOLLOWS. IF YOU CONCUR
WOULD YOU REQUEST THIS TELEGRAM BE REPEATED IMMEDIATELY
TO MANILA?

2. FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN FROM AMBASSADOR AKINS.
WOULD YOU PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO SAYYID
OMAR SAQQAF, SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
NOW IN MANILA. BEGIN MESSAGE:
DEAR OMAR: I HAVE JUST RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM
SECRETARY KISSINGER ON THE MATTER OF BROADER US-SAUDI
COOPERATION WHICH YOU AND I HAVE DISCUSSED SO FREQUENTLY
AND WHICH THE SECRETARY RAISED WITH HIS MAJESTY DURING
HIS LATEST VISIT TO RIYADH. (PARAGRAPH) THE INSTRUCTIONS
INCLUDE PROPOSALS FOR SETTING UP JOINT US-SAUDI COMMISSIONS
ON ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND MILITARY MATTERS. WE HAD
NEVER DISCUSSED ANYTHING REMOTELY COMPARABLE OR AS IMPOR-
TANT WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND RARELY
WITH ANY COUNTRY ANYPLACE. I KNOW YOU WILL BE
GRATIFIED BY THIS DEVELOPMENT AS AM I, AND I AM
LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR RETURN WHEN WE CAN GO INTO THE
SECRET

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DETAILS. I WANTED TO GET THIS TO YOU NOW AND TO GET

THE BENEFIT OF YOUR LATEST THINKING ON THE SUBJECT.
(PARAGRAPH) I WILL BE GOING TO RIYADH SOON AND PLAN TO
TALK ABOUT THIS WITH PRINCES FAHD, SULTAN AND MUSA'ID
AND WITH RASHAD PHARAON AND HISHAM NAZIR. I WILL OF
COURSE SAY, UNLESS YOU OBJECT, THAT I HAD DISCUSSED THIS
MATTER WITH YOU EARLIER, BUT NEITHER YOU OR I KNEW UNTIL
NOW EXACTLY WHAT THE WASHINGTON REACTION WOULD BE.
(PARAGRAPH) WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING LEAKED TO THE PRESS;
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY WOULD DO WITH IT. BUT I SUPPOSE
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL WE READ A FULL ACCOUNT
-- WITH GROSS DISTORTIONS OF COURSE -- IN THE
AMERICAN, FRENCH AND LEBANESE PRESS. I HOPE NOTHING
GETS OUT UNTIL WE'VE HAD A CHANCE TO GO INTO THE MATTER
DEEPLY AND I'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PASS YOUR VIEWS
BACK TO THE SECRETARY. (PARAGRAPH WARM REGARDS. WE'RE
LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR QUICK AND SAFE RETURN. JIM.
END MESSAGE.
AKINS

SECRET

NNN

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