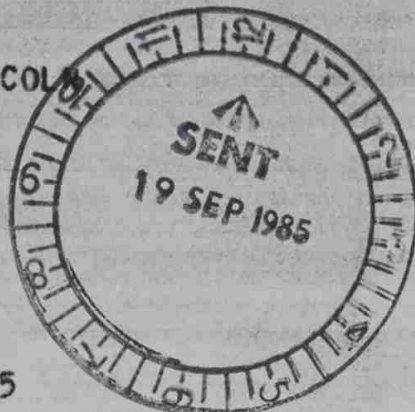


ADVANCE COPY

PN

M
ZCZC
HPLNBN 0778 JBHPAN 0528 REJBAN 0018
CONFIDENTIAL
DD 191200Z FCOLN
DD 191200Z MODLN
RR JEDDA
FM RIYAD TO FCOLN
190815Z SEP
GRS 450



IMM
190815Z SEP 85
FROM COMMCEN HSP
TO MODUK

MED 1020
NEWS D
DEFRA D
PROTOCOL D

PS (2)

PS/MIL KEMIOU

PS/PUS

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST

CONFIDENTIAL UK COMMS ONLY
SIC A3A

CONFIDENTIAL
FM RIYADH
TO DESKBY 191200Z FCO
TELNO 104
OF 190815Z SEPTEMBER 85
AND TO DESKBY 191200Z MODUK
INFO ROUTINE JEDDAH

TORNADO DEAL

SUMMARY

1. FAVOURABLE REACTION HERE. OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR PRINCE SULTAN'S VISIT TO LONDON 25 - 28 SEPTEMBER SATISFACTORY.

DETAIL

2. THE REACTION OF SENIOR OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS HERE HAS BEEN DISTINCTLY FAVOURABLE. FOR EXAMPLE, PRINCE KHALID BIN SULTAN, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE ROYAL AIR DEFENCE COMMAND, CONGRATULATED THE AIR ATTACHE ON THE SALE. HE REMARKED THAT THE DEAL WAS VERY MUCH IN THE INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AND IMPLIED THAT IT WAS HIGH TIME THE SAUDIS MADE A MAJOR PURCHASE FROM BRITAIN. HE WAS PARTICULARLY HAPPY WITH THE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR DELIVERY. OTHER SENIOR OFFICERS HAVE ECHOED THIS REACTION, SOME ADDING NOTES OF DISENCHANTMENT WITH THE US CONGRESS OR THE FRENCH. THE HEAD OF WESTERN DEPARTMENT IN THE MFA ALSO INDICATED TO ME HIS PLEASURE AT THE NEWS.

3. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE TERMS OF THE MOU ARE CURRENTLY BEING REVIEWED BY SENIOR OFFICIALS HERE. GEN BAHAIY, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO LONDON EARLY NEXT WEEK.

OPERATIONS, IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO LONDON EARLY NEXT WEEK.

4. AIR ATTACHE HAS DISCUSSED WITH PRINCE SULTAN'S DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR SULTAN'S VISIT CONTAINED IN MODUK SIGNAL 161410Z. KHELEWY, WHO HAD CONSULTED THE PRINCE, CONFIRMED THAT THE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT WERE BROADLY SATISFACTORY. IN OUTLINE THE PROGRAMME NOW LOOKS AS FOLLOWS:-

25 SEPTEMBER

1500 HRS ARRIVE HEATHROW, ACCOMPANIED BY 21 (NAMES TO FOLLOW), NINE WILL BE ARMED. SAUDIS WELCOMED THE SUGGESTION THAT MR HESELTINE SHOULD MEET SULTAN ON ARRIVAL. REMAINDER OF THE DAY FREE. (SULTAN WILL SPEND THE EVENING PRIVATELY WITH THE SAUDI EMBASSY).

26 SEPTEMBER

THE SAUDIS ACCEPT A WORKING CALL ON MR HESELTINE FOLLOWED BY LUNCH WHICH LATTER WILL HOST. THEY HOPE THAT FIVE OR SIX OF THEIR PARTY WILL BE INCLUDED. PRINCE SULTAN NATURALLY WELCOMES THE PROPOSED DINNER AT NO 10. IF POSSIBLE HE WOULD PREFER HIS CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER TO TAKE PLACE IMMEDIATELY BEFORE DINNER RATHER THAN IN THE AFTERNOON (ALLOWING PERHAPS 45 MINUTES FOR THE PURPOSE). HE WOULD LIKE THE AFTERNOON FREE.

27 SEPTEMBER

A VISIT TO BRITISH AEROSPACE IS AGREED. WITH A FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION OF TORNADO BY PRINCE BANDAR IN THE MORNING FOLLOWED BY LUNCH. PRINCE SULTAN WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE AT 1400 HRS. TO ALLOW HIM TO GIVE A RECEPTION AT THE SAUDI EMBASSY THAT EVENING FOLLOWED BY A PRIVATE DINNER AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

28 SEPTEMBER

1400 HRS DEPART HEATHROW FOR NEW YORK.

5. SAUDI DEFENCE ATTACHE IN LONDON IS BRIEFED TO HANDLE THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS. (HE WILL LEAVE US TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON GIFTS IF WE SO WISH BUT WOULD LIKE ADVANCE NOTICE).

6. FCO PSE PASS TO NO 10.

GREEN

YYYY

REJBAN 0018

NNNN