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GRS290

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DESKBY 041830Z FCO AND RIYADH

FM WASHINGTON 041800Z NOV 81

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3285 OF 4 NOVEMBER
AND TO RIYADH (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE), JEDDA
INFO IMMEDIATE CAIRO, TEL AVIV, EC POSTS
INFO SAVING OTHER MIDDLE EAST POSTS.

file

YOUR TELNO 1652: SINAI

1. AS HAIG WAS TESTIFYING TO A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE, I DELIVERED YOUR MESSAGE TO VELIOTES THIS MORNING AND SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED.

2. VELIOTES EXPRESSED THANKS FOR THE ADVANCE NOTICE AND SAID THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD TRY TO DAMP DOWN ISRAELI REACTIONS, ALTHOUGH THEY CURRENTLY HAD SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE ISRAELIS. HE UNDERTOOK TO SPEAK TO HAIG AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND EXPECTED THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD COME BACK TO US IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY.

3. VELIOTES REINFORCED THE POINTS IN HAIG'S MESSAGE TO YOU YESTERDAY THAT THE ATMOSPHERE IN ISRAEL IS EXPLOSIVE, THAT THE ISRAELIS WERE INSISTENT THAT THE AMERICANS SHOULD REJECT FAHD'S EIGHT POINTS, THAT THERE IS STILL A DANGER OF AN ISRAELI MOVE INTO THE LEBANON, AND THAT THE AMERICANS WERE DOING THEIR UTMOST TO CALM THEM DOWN. HE WAS ALSO WORRIED AT THE POSSIBLE EFFECT ON THE ISRAELIS OF PRESS REPORTS OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SAUDIS OF FAHD'S EIGHT POINTS. VELIOTES EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE REFERENCE TO THE PLO IN THE STATEMENT BY THE FOUR WOULD GIVE THE ISRAELIS GREAT DIFFICULTY. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF CHANGING THE TEXTS OF THE STATEMENTS AT THIS LATE STAGE. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT NEITHER THE STATEMENT OF THE FOUR NOR OF THE TEN REFERRED TO FAHD'S EIGHT POINTS, A REFERENCE AGAINST WHICH HAIG HAD MADE A SPECIFIC WARNING IN HIS LATEST MESSAGE TO YOU.

FCO PASS SAVING ABU DHABI, ADEN, ALGIERS, AMMAN, BAGHDAD, BAHRAIN, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, DOHA, DUBAI, JERUSALEM, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, MUSCAT, RABAT, SANA'A, TRIPOLI AND TUNIS.

HENDERSON

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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