

IRAN: ADVANCE COPIES

89

6 PS  
PS/SIR I GILMOUR  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/PUS  
MR J C MOBERLY *M. B. Moberly*  
LORD BRIDGES  
HD/MED  
HD/FRD  
HD/NENAD  
HD/UND (2)  
HD/OID (2)  
HD/DEF DEPT  
HD/MAED  
HD/ES & SD (2)  
HD/CONS DEPT  
HD/POD  
MISS BROWN  
PUSD (2)  
NEWS DEPT

~~PS NO 10 DOWNING ST~~  
2 SIR R ARMSTRONG )  
ASSESSMENTS STAFF ) CABINET  
MR LE CHEMINANT ) OFFICE  
CABINET OFFICE DIO  
MR F R BARRATT TREASURY

UNCLASSIFIED

SIC

OR150

FM TEHRAN 150930Z DEC

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1342 OF 15 DEC 79

INFO PRIORITY MODUK ABU DHABI ANKARA BAGHDAD BAHRAIN  
DOHA DUBAI ISLAMABAD JEDDA KABUL KUWAIT MUSCAT.

IRAN-IRAQ BORDER INCIDENT.

1. TEHRAN RADIO LAST NIGHT REPORTED THAT "IRAQ FORCES WITH HEAVY WEAPONS" HAD YESTERDAY AFTERNOON PENETRATED FIVE KILOMETRES INTO IRAN BUT HAD BEEN DRIVEN BACK. THE RADIO QUOTED THE GOVERNOR OF KHORRAMSHAHR AND THE MFA AS SOURCES, BUT GAVE NO FURTHER DETAILS. THE MFA DUTY OFFICER, TO WHOM WE SPOKE AT MIDNIGHT, COULD NOT ENLARGE ON THE RADIO REPORT.
2. THE TEHRAN TIMES THIS MORNING QUOTES AN MFA SPOKESMAN AS FOLLOWS "I UNDERSTAND THEY CAME A LITTLE BIT INTO OUR COUNTRY AND THEN THEY WENT BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY AND ITS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT".
3. QUOTING SOURCES IN ABADAN, THE TEHRAN TIMES SAYS THAT THE IRAQI ATTACK WAS DIRECTED AT A BORDER POST AT SALAMCHEH, 20 KM NORTH WEST OF KHORRAMSHAHR. THERE WERE CONFLICTING REPORTS AS TO WHETHER IRAQI FORCES ACTUALLY CROSSED THE BORDER.