

# CONFIDENTIAL

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FM PARIS 011136Z OCT 80  
TO ROUTINE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 830 OF 1 OCTOBER 1980  
INFO ROUTINE UKMIS NEW YORK WASHINGTON BONN AND BAGHDAD

*It looks as though the French  
may be being even more active  
with the Arabs than we had  
thought!*

*And*

## IRAN/IRAQ: FRENCH VIEWS

1. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH THE MINISTER (ECONOMIC) AT THE INAUGURATION OF A VIDEO-COMMUNICATIONS EXHIBITION IN CANNES ON MONDAY THE FRENCH MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY, M GIRAUD, ASKED WHETHER THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BE READY TO JOIN THE FRENCH IN SUPPORTING OR RE-AFFIRMING THAT THERE IS A LEGITIMATE ARAB EMIRATE CLAIM TO THE LOWER GULF ISLANDS. GIRAUD SUGGESTED THAT THIS COULD BE DONE IN RETURN FOR AN ASSURANCE BY THE IRAQIS THAT THEY WOULD NOT EXTEND THE PRESENT CONFLICT IN ORDER TO RE-POSSESS THE ISLANDS BY FORCE. IN REPLY PETRIE LIMITED HIMSELF TO DESCRIBING THE BRITISH POSITION ON THE LINES OF YOUR GUIDANCE TELEGRAM NO 101. M GIRAUD'S SUGGESTION AT A CHANCE MEETING DOES NOT OF COURSE CONSTITUTE A FORMAL PROPOSAL, BUT IT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU AS A POINTER TO THINKING IN THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

HIBBERT.

THIS TELEGRAM  
WAS NOT  
ADVANCED

### IRAQ/IRAN STANDARD

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| MED   | MAED           |
| NENAD | TRED           |
| NAD   | ERD            |
| UND   | ECON D         |
| EESD  | CONS D         |
| ECD   | CONS EM UNIT   |
| WED   | CABINET OFFICE |

### ADDITIONAL DISTN.

IRAQ/IRAN

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