

IRAN/IRAQ

ADVANCE COPIES

22

PS
PS/SIR I GILMOUR
PS/MR HURD
PS/PUS
SIR E YOUDE
SIR J GRAHAM
MR J C MOBERLY
MR BRAITHEWAITE
HD/MED
HD/NEPAD
HD/UND
HD/CONS D
CONSULAR EMERGENCY UNIT
HD/ES & SD
HD/MAED
HD/DEF D
PUSD (2)
NEWS D

NO 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE DIO

Sir A ALLAN D

MT

GRS 170

CONFIDENTIAL

FM PARIS 011445Z OCT 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 831 OF 01 OCTOBER 1980

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, BAGHDAD.

INFO ROUTINE BONN.

INFO SAVING TO ISLAMABAD, UKDEL NATO AND MOSCOW.

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

TELECON LEVER/YOUNG: IRAN/IRAQ: GULF ISLANDS

1. HEAD OF CHANCERY ASKED THE DEPUTY DIPLOMATIC ADVISER AT THE ELYSEE THIS MORNING WHETHER THE FRENCH HAD HAD FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE IRAQIS OVER THE GULF ISLANDS SINCE OUR EXCHANGES WITH THE ELYSEE LAST WEEKEND. LEVITTE SAID THAT, AS FAR AS HE WAS AWARE, THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE IRAQIS. AS WE KNEW (SEE PARAGRAPH 3 OF MY TELEGRAM NO. 825) PRESIDENT GISCARD HAD WARNED TARIQ AZIZ ON 25 SEPTEMBER OF THE DANGERS OF ANY ATTACK AGAINST THE GULF ISLANDS. LEVITTE BELIEVED THAT THE IRAQIS HAD TAKEN ON BOARD THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS. THE RISK OF AN ATTACK SEEMED TO HAVE RECEDED SOMEWHAT IN THE LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE RETICENCE SHOWN BY THE GULF ARAB RULERS AND BY WESTERN LEADERS AND ALSO, OF COURSE, BECAUSE OF THE MILITARY SITUATION ON THE IRAQ/IRAN FRONTIER.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

HIBBERT.