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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM ABU DHABI 140850Z OCT 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 334 OF 14 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE DUBAI AND MUDUK

ROUTINE MUSCAT.

MY 331 + YOUR 222

YOUR TELNO 331:

mf

SECURITY OF THE GULF.

1. IN MY ABSENCE IN DUBAI, FIRST SECRETARY SAW THE MINISTER OF STATE THIS MORNING AND PUT THE SUGGESTIONS IN YOUR PARA 4.
2. AS EXPECTED RASHED ABDULLAH, WHILE APPRECIATING OUR READINESS TO SEND A TEAM AT SHORT NOTICE, REGRETTED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO POINT IN ANYBODY COMING TO START DISCUSSIONS BEFORE OR DURING THE ID HOLIDAY. HE SAID HOWEVER THAT SUCH A TEAM WOULD BE MOST WELCOME "A DAY OR TWO AFTER THE ID". HE ALSO DECLINED THE SUGGESTION THAT ONE MAN COULD COME OUT THIS WEEK TO HOLD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS.
3. SINCE ON THE DAY OR TWO FOLLOWING AN ID UAE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE NORMALLY ONLY WORKING AT HALF STRENGTH, I SUGGEST THAT THE FIRST PRACTICAL DATE FOR GENERAL PERKINS AND HIS TEAM TO ARRIVE WOULD BE 25 OCTOBER. HOWEVER I THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL AND WOULD UNDERLINE OUR WILLINGNESS TO START SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS IF ONE MEMBER OF PERKIN'S STAFF COULD ARRIVE ON 22 OCTOBER.

ROBERTS

BT

IMMEDIATE

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