

ADVANCE COPY

RESTRICTED
FM KUWAIT
TO FLASH FCO
TELNO 448
OF 201500Z AUGUST 1990
INFO IMMEDIATE TO BAGHDAD

FLASH

YRTELNO. 289: COMMUNITY SIZE.

1. OUR ORIGINAL ESTIMATE OF ABOUT 3,000 BRITISH PASSPORT HOLDERS IN KUWAIT ON 1 AUGUST WAS BASED ON A GUESS THAT ABOUT HALF THE COMMUNITY WAS ON LEAVE OR GOING WITHIN A FEW DAYS (MANY MEN SEND THEIR FAMILIES AHEAD AND THEN TAKE THEIR ONE MONTH PER YEAR IN AUGUST WHEN KUWAIT MORE OR LESS CLOSES DOWN). IN ADDITION TO THIS WE ESTIMATED 100 AUSTRALIANS, 100 IRISH AND POSSIBLY 500 ASSORTED COMMONWEALTH WHO DO NOT HAVE REPRESENTATION HERE AND WHO DO NOT NORMALLY GET AROUND TO MAKING CONTACT WITH US, EG KENYANS, SEYCHELLOISE, MAURITIANS AND WEST INDIANS. A SURPRISING NUMBER OF PEOPLE CLAIMING DUAL NATIONALITY ALSO SURFACED WHEN IT APPEARED WE MIGHT ORGANISE AN AIRLIFT.

2. IN VIEW OF OUR RECENT EXPERIENCE WE SHOULD NOW BE INCLINED TO REDUCE THE TOTAL OF BRITISH CITIZENS TO ABOUT 2,300= AND TO REDUCE THE OTHER NUMBERS TO A TOTAL OF ABOUT 500 COMMONWEALTH AND IRISH. WE KNOW THAT OVER TWO HUNDRED BRITISH HAVE REACHED SAUDI ARABIA, AND A FURTHER 200 OR SO HAVE GONE TO BAGHDAD, WHETHER VOLUNTARILY OR NOT. MANY OF THE MAIDS, MAURITIAN OR SEYCHELLOISE, WILL REMAIN INVISIBLE UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT, BUT SOME WILL HAVE BEEN OUT OF THE COUNTRY WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS.

3. ESTIMATES FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES ARE FRENCH 250, GERMANS 200, US 2,000, DUTCH 150, ITALIAN 80.

WESTON
ADVANCE

31 27,

IRAQ/KUWAIT
PS
PS/PUS
MR TOMKYS
~~MR GORE-BOOTH~~
MR FAIRWEATHER
HD/MED
HD/NENAD
HD/NAD
HD/SED
HD/UND
HD/CONSULAR D
HD/NEWS D
HD/NPDD
HD/SECPOL D
HD/AMD
HD/ECD(E)

MR PRIDDLE, DEPT OF ENERGY
MR W D REEVES CABINET OFFICE
MR D J GOWAN CABINET OFFICE
MR BARRASS, CABINET OFFICE
(BY TUBE H29)
PS/NUMBER 10 DOWNING ST
SIR P CRADOCK,
(NO 10 DOWNING ST)
CABINET OFFICE DIO
(BY TUBE H29)
SIR ROBIN BUTLER, CAB OFFICE
AUS (C) MODUK
HD/SEC (O) (C) MODUK
MR LS SMITH BANK ENGLAND (2)
~~EMERGENCY UNIT~~
~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

FLASH