

CCPC

Mr Young, MED

JW

Secretary of State's meeting with the Sultan of Oman;
2 September

We reported the Secretary of State's main discussion with the Sultan of Oman by telegram. The Secretary of State had a private chat with him at dinner in Salalah on 2 September.

The Sultan said that Yaqub Khan (or it might have been the Foreign Secretary) had reported to him that Shaikh Zayed of the UAE was very worried that the Emirates might be overrun by the Omanis and the Saudis. The Sultan was concerned to think that Shaikh Zayed might believe this and the Secretary of State was able to tell him that no such concern had come through during his own visit. The Sultan did, however, think that Shaikh Zayed should be worried by his own people. Compared with Dubai, Abu Dhabi had slack internal security. He did not think Shaikh Zayed had sufficient grip.

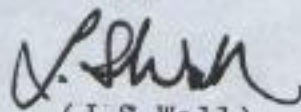
Bahrain

The Sultan was worried about Shaikh Isa. He was normally a jolly man but was taking things hard. The Secretary of State will aim to send a message to the Foreign Minister.

The Sultan

The Secretary of State commented that the Sultan seemed to be taking the crisis very calmly. The Sultan said he was pretty serene. He evidently thought it would take six months or so for sanctions to have their effect. He thought the situation would hold provided that US troops and the Saudis did not get at cross purposes. If there was any trouble, then Saddam Hussein would pounce on it. If we could overcome that problem, things would be all right.

3 September 1990



(J S Wall)

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