

CONFIDENTIAL

054742
MDADAN 8962

CONFIDENTIAL
FM AMMAN
TO DESKBY 121930Z FCO
TELNO 410
OF 121745Z AUGUST 90
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, RIYADH, UKMIS NEW YORK

ADVANCE COPY

YOUR TELNO 267: MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

SUMMARY

1. PRIME MINISTER'S SECOND MESSAGE DELIVERED AND APPEARS TO BE WELL RECEIVED. NO CLEAR RESPONSE OVER SANCTIONS. ADDRESS TO THE NATION THIS EVENING.

DETAIL

2. I SAW KING HUSSEIN AT 1430Z TODAY (12 AUGUST) AND HANDED HIM THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE. HAVING READ IT CAREFULLY, THE KING SAID THAT HE WAS GLAD TO HAVE RECEIVED IT BEFORE SENDING A REPLY TO MRS THATCHER'S FIRST MESSAGE (UNUSUALLY, HE HAD A PIECE OF PAPER IN FRONT OF HIM WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN HIS INTENDED REPLY: IN WHICH CASE, HE CHOSE NOT TO HAND IT OVER). HE LOOKED RELIEVED. I VOLUNTEERED THAT I KNEW THAT MRS THATCHER WAS CONCERNED TO STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH.
3. I SAID THAT WE ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS: BUT THERE MIGHT BE WAYS IN WHICH WE COULD HELP JORDAN TO SUSTAIN THEIR IMPACT EG IN THE FINANCIAL FIELD, THROUGH ADVICE FROM OUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. THIS WAS A POINT ON WHICH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN HAD ALREADY SOUGHT OUR ASSISTANCE. THE KING REFLECTED FOR A MOMENT AND SAID THAT THE WHOLE ISSUE OF SANCTIONS WAS BEING LOOKED AT URGENTLY. SINCE HE MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT, I SUGGESTED THAT HE OR THE CROWN PRINCE SHOULD LET US KNOW IF HE THOUGHT WE COULD BE OF HELP. HE NODDED.
4. I ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING FURTHER THE KING MIGHT WISH TO PASS ON TO MRS THATCHER AT THIS STAGE. HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD BRIEFED BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT EARLIER IN THE AFTERNOON, DRAWING ON HIS EXPERIENCE OF PREVIOUS CRISES IN THE REGION AND ADVISING THEM WHAT, IN HIS OPINION, NEEDED TO BE DONE. HE THOUGHT THEY WERE NOW QUOTE WELL MOTIVATED UNQUOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

05.2
MDADAN 8962

THIS EVENING HE WOULD BE ADDRESSING THE NATION, SUMMING UP WHAT HE HAD SAID TO THE PARLIAMENT. HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

COMMENT

5. THE AUDIENCE LASTED NO MORE THAN 5 MINUTES. IT WAS, I AM SURE, HELPFUL TO HAVE TRANSMITTED THIS FURTHER MESSAGE, WHICH HAS PROBABLY HEADED OFF A RETURN SALVO AND THUS HELPED TO REMOVE SOME OF THE STRAIN WHICH HAS BEEN APPARENT OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS. HOWEVER, THE ATMOSPHERE WAS FAR FROM RELAXED. THE KING HAS MADE NO SECRET IN PUBLIC OF HIS OPPOSITION TO FOREIGN INTERVENTION (DRAWING PARALLELS WITH SUEZ) AND HAS STATED THAT HE WILL ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO AN ARAB FORCE IF ALL FOREIGN FORCES ARE WITHDRAWN.

6. AS TO SANCTIONS, THERE HAS STILL BEEN NO CLEAR-CUT PUBLIC STATEMENT OF JORDAN'S INTENTION TO APPLY THEM, THOUGH THE KING MAY HAVE MORE TO SAY THIS EVENING. WE AND THE AMERICANS WILL NO DOUBT NEED TO WORK HARD TO KEEP THE JORDANIANS UP TO THE MARK, THOUGH I HOPE WE SHALL ALSO BE ABLE TO GIVE SUBSTANCE IN SOME FORM TO OUR OFFER OF ASSISTANCE.

7. PLEASE ADVANCE TO PS/NO 10.

REEVE

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

13

ADVANCE 13

PS
PS/MR WALDEGRAVE
PS/PUS
MR TOMKYS
HD/NENAD
MR YOUNG (EMERGENCY UNIT)

HD/UND
MR BERMAN
PUSD E203
PS/N010.
CHIEF ASSESSMENTS STAFF,
(CAB OFFICE)

NNNN

PAGE 2
CONFIDENTIAL

