

QQAHU05.3))33 .RR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 021705Z OCT 81

TO PRIORITY UKDEL MELBOURNE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 157 OF 2 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY AMMAN AND JEDDA

PRIORITY

*By Set
PS for action
1/13 3/10*

FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY:

YOUR TELNO 12 (NOT TO JEDDA): POSSIBLE VISIT BY SECRETARY OF STATE TO JORDAN.

1. THERE IS NO ROOM IN THE DIARY FOR A SUBSTANTIVE VISIT TO AMMAN ON EITHER SIDE OF THE VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA (3-5 NOVEMBER) AND KING HUSSEIN IS DUE TO BE IN WASHINGTON FROM 2-3 NOVEMBER (WE DO NOT KNOW HIS TRAVEL PLANS). NONETHELESS IT IS WORTH TAKING TROUBLE TO KEEP THE JORDANIANS FAVOURABLE TO THE EUROPEAN APPROACH AND TO THE FAHD INITIATIVE, AND WE RECOMMEND EITHER A STOP-OFF IN AMMAN ON THE WAY FROM SAUDI ARABIA OR AN INVITATION TO KING HUSSEIN TO STOP OFF IN LONDON ON HIS WAY TO OR FROM WASHINGTON. IF THE TIMING FITTED, TALKS IN LONDON ON KING HUSSEIN'S WAY OUT WOULD BE PREFERABLE, AS SIGNIFYING CONSULTATION WITH THE JORDANIANS RATHER THEN MERELY KEEPING THEM INFORMED. THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD ALSO LEAVE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN SETTING UP LORD CARRINGTON'S PROGRAMME IN RIYADH.
3. A STOP-OFF OF THIS NATURE WOULD NOT SATISFY THE JORDANIAN INTEREST IN A FULL OFFICIAL VISIT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, BUT SHOULD HOLD THE POSITION PROVIDED THAE PROSPECT OF SUCH A VISIT CONTINUED TO BE EXPLORED.
4. DO YOU AGREE THAT AMMAN SHOULD TAKE SOUNDINGS OF THE JORDANIANS ON THIS BASIS?

CARRINGTON



Jordan

CONFIDENTIAL

Agreed.

Am

Mr M O'D B Alexander

Relations with Jordan

I attach a self-explanatory telegram from our Embassy in Amman. You will see that it mentions ^{the} a possibility of inviting King Hussein to spend a day or two in London en route to or from Washington at the beginning of November.

Lord Carrington would like to authorise our Embassy to take soundings of the Jordanians, as proposed in the telegram. However, before doing so, I should be grateful to know whether the Prime Minister would be free to receive King Hussein in the period in question, and would agree to do so.

RMJ Lyne

(R M J Lyne)

5 October 1981

RESTRICTED