

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES

(22) ~~10~~

IMMEDIATE

PS - 6
PS/MR HURD
PS/PUS
SIR J LEAHY
MR EGERTON
SIR J BULLARD
ED/NENAD
ED/MED
ED/UND

NO 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE D10

ED/NAD ...
ED/CONSULAR DEPT

PUSD (2)
NEWS D
RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 240900Z

FM WASHINGTON 231630Z JAN 83
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 182 OF 23 JANUARY
INFO IMMEDIATE JEDDA, RABAT, AMMAN, TUNIS, ROUTINE TO OTHER
MIDDLE EAST POSTS AND UKMIS NEW YORK.

ARAB LEAGUE DELEGATION.

VELIOTES TOLD MINISTER LAST NIGHT THAT PRINCE BANDAR HAD TELEPHONED HIM ON FRIDAY (21 JANUARY) TO LET HIM KNOW THAT THE PLO HAD NOW DEFINITELY REJECTED MILHEM AS PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON THE ARAB LEAGUE DELEGATION TO LONDON. KING FAHD HAD TELEPHONED BANDAR ABOUT THIS TO ASK HIM TO GO TO LONDON THIS WEEKEND TO TRY AND SORT MATTERS OUT, SO THAT THE VISIT COULD TAKE PLACE. KING FAHD HAD ALSO ASKED BANDAR TO DO WHAT HE COULD WHILE IN LONDON TO PUT U.K.-SAUDI RELATIONS ON A BETTER FOOTING.

2. VELIOTES WAS NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT TIMETABLE BANDAR HAD SET HIMSELF BUT PRESUMED HE WOULD BE TURNING UP IN LONDON ON MONDAY. KING FAHD HAD APPARENTLY INSTRUCTED BANDAR TO GO STRAIGHT AWAY. IF TRUE (AND VELIOTES CLEARLY ACCEPTS IT) THIS INCIDENT, THROWS MORE LIGHT ON THE AUTHORITY WITH WHICH BANDAR SPEAKS. ACCORDING TO VELIOTES...

MORE LIGHT ON THE AUTHORITY WITH WHICH BANDAR SPEAKS. ACCORDING
• TO VELLIOTES, HE IS KING FAHD'S FAVORITE NEPHEW AND DESPITE HIS
OFFICIAL POSITION HERE AS SAUDI AIR ATTACHE THE KING IS NOW
USING HIM AS A CHANNEL TO THE ADMINISTRATION MUCH MORE THAN THE
SAUDI AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON.

3. RESIDENT CLERK PLEASE INFORM EGERTON OR MILES TODAY.

WRIGHT

NNNN