

GRS 220  
UNCLASSIFIED  
DESKBY 280800Z  
FM JEDDA 280600Z JUL  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 546 OF 28 JUL 80

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MIPT AND MIFT : MR HURD'S VISIT

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF MR HURD'S STATEMENT TO THE SAUDI PRESS AGENCY AT JEDDA AIRPORT AT 0630Z TODAY:-

BEGINS

I CAME HERE PERSONALLY TO UNDERLINE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S REGRET AT THE UNDERSTANDABLE OFFENCE CAUSED BY THE SHOWING OF THE FILM "DEATH OF A PRINCESS", AND TO PROPOSE CERTAIN IDEAS AND PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE RESTORATION OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS. THESE WERE WELCOMED BY HRH PRINCE SAUD ON BEHALF OF THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT. AS A RESULT OF OUR DISCUSSIONS IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT WILL ARRANGE FOR THE EARLY ARRIVAL OF THEIR NEW AMBASSADOR IN LONDON AND THAT MR CRAIG WILL RETURN TO JEDDA. THIS DECISION DEMONSTRATES THE AGREEMENT OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO CONDUCT ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR RELATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THEM.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS SAID THAT HE WOULD WELCOME A VISIT BY LORD CARRINGTON TO THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE MANY INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS IN WHICH THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE A COMMON INTEREST AND ON WHICH THEY WISH TO WORK TOGETHER. IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT THE VISIT SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON 26 AUGUST.

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MY IPT : MR HURD'S VISIT.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT MADE BY SAUDI MFA SPOKES-  
MAN TO SAUDI PRESS AGENCY AT JEDDA AIRPORT AT 0630Z TODAY.

BEGINS

HIS EXCELLENCY MR DOUGLAS HURD, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE BRITISH  
FOREIGN OFFICE VISITED THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA ON SATURDAY  
AND SUNDAY 14 - 15 RAMADAN 1400 (26 - 27 JULY 1980) AND MET WITH  
HRH PRINCE SAUD AL FAISAL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE BRITISH MINISTER CONVEYED TO HIS HIGHNESS THE REGRET OF HIS  
GOVERNMENT AT THE COOLNESS THAT HAD OCCUREED RECENTLY IN THE  
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND HIS HOPE THAT THESE  
RELATIONS WOULD RETURN TO THEIR FORMER STATE OF MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP  
AND COOPERATION. THE MINISTER PUT FORWARD TO HIS HIGHNESS SOME  
IDEAS AND PROCEDURES WHICH COULD HELP TO DEVELOP THE UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES AND TO INCREASE THE UNDERSTANDING  
OF THE BRITISH PEOPLE FOR ISLAMIC VALUES AND TRADITIONS.

HRH PRINCE SAUD AL FAISAL EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE  
PROPOSED IDEAS CONFIRMING TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE WISH OF HIS  
MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT TO HAVE STRONG AND FIRM RELATIONS WITH  
BRITAIN ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND COMMON INTERESTS  
AND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP WHICH LINKS  
THE TWO COUNTRIES. HIS HIGHNESS EXPRESSED THE APPRECIATION  
OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR THE POSITIVE EVOLUTION IN  
THE POSITION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST  
AND THE PALESTINE QUESTION. IT WAS THIS - TOGETHER WITH THE EFFECTIVE  
ROLE PLAYED BY BRITIAN ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL GENERALLY  
AND ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY - THAT GAVE  
IMPORTANCE TO THE EXISTENCE OF STRONG TIES BETWEEN THE TWO  
GOVERNMENTS.

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HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAD ACCORDINGLY DECIDED THAT THEIR  
AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, HE SHAIKH NASIR  
MANQUR, SHOULD SHORTLY PROCEED TO LONDON TO TAKE UP HIS DUTIES. THEY  
ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR WELCOME FOR THE RETURN TO JEDDA OF HE THE BRITISH  
AMBASSADOR TO THE KINGDOM, MR JAMES CRAIG. HRH PRINCE SAUD AL  
FAISAL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WELCOMED THE VISIT OF LORD  
CARRINGTON, FOREIGN MINISTER TO THE KINGDOM ON 26 AUGUST 1980.

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