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FM FCO 121720Z APR 85
TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI
TELEGRAM NUMBER 414 OF 12 APRIL
AND TO IMMEDIATE WARSAW (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY)
INFO IMMEDIATE JEDDA, RIYADH

FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER

MIPT: ARAB/ISRAEL: MURPHY'S MISSION

1. MURPHY TRAVELS TO AMMAN ON 13 APRIL. HE TOLD FERGUSSON ON 12 APRIL IN CONFIDENCE THAT HE INTENDS TO GO ON TO VISIT ISRAEL, EGYPT, SYRIA, SAUDI ARABIA, LEBANON AND PERHAPS IRAQ BEFORE RETURNING TO JORDAN AND ISRAEL.

2. MURPHY UNDERLINED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) THE US AIM IS TO DEVISE A SCENARIO WHICH COULD LEAD TO THE REOPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN JORDAN, PALESTINIANS AND ISRAEL:

(B) HE IS NOT (NOT) PRESSING FOR FURTHER CONCESSIONS FROM ARAFAT AS HE RECOGNISES THAT THIS COULD DESTROY HIS AUTHORITY:

(C) SELECTION OF ACCEPTABLE PALESTINIANS WITHOUT A CLEAR PLO LABEL FOR A JOINT JORDANIAN/PALESTINIAN DELEGATION APPEARS EASIER NOW THAN HITHERTO. THE JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER AND ARAFAT MAY HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS ALREADY.

(D) MURPHY HIMSELF HOPES TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS JORDANIAN PROPOSED NAMES IN AMMAN, AND THEN PERHAPS MEET A JORDANIAN/PALESTINIAN GROUP DURING HIS SECOND VISIT:

(E) AMMAN WOULD BE THE BEST VENUE FOR SUCH A MEETING AS THE US AIM IS TO BOLSTER HUSSEIN'S POSITION, NOT ARAFAT'S:

(F) MURPHY PLAYED DOWN THE IDEA OF RECEPTION OF A DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON, OR INDEED OTHER US MOVES, STRESSING THAT HE WOULD BE AIMING FOR PROGRESS TOWARDS NEGOTIATIONS. HE WOULD CHALLENGE THOSE SUGGESTING FURTHER US ACTIVITY TO DEMONSTRATE HOW IT WOULD LEAD TO TO THAT END:

(G) HE WILL BE PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE ISRAELIS TO BE MORE POSITIVE AND ACCEPTS THAT THEY HAVE NOT GONE AS FAR AS THEY MIGHT.

3. VMURPHY MUST BE BACK IN WASHINGTON BY 30 APRIL TO REPORT TO SHULTZ.

HOWE

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(a) apply to PLO.