



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1
 Telephone 01-930 7022

MO 5/3/3

18th September 1985

EMD 24/E

Dear Mark,

VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM BY PRINCE SULTAN

We spoke on the telephone about the arrangements for the visit next week of Prince Sultan. In the nature of things with Saudi Arabia these are likely to remain somewhat fluid but we now have an agreed framework, a copy of which is attached.

You will see that it is now envisaged that on 26th September there will be a meeting between the Defence Secretary and Prince Sultan followed by lunch hosted by the Defence Secretary. The Prime Minister's involvement that day would be accepting a call by Prince Sultan and hosting a dinner in the evening. The Saudis have asked whether it would be possible for the call on the Prime Minister to take place just prior to the dinner rather than separately in the afternoon. This seems sensible. We would envisage a call of say 45 minutes duration. If this approach appeals to the Prime Minister, we now need to firm up the timings of firstly the call and then the dinner, on which I should welcome your early advice. (The programme is due to go to press tomorrow).

I will provide further advice shortly on the suggested guest list for the dinner.

Could I also draw your attention to the programme on 27th September which involves a visit to BAe Warton and in the evening a dinner given by Prince Sultan. Unfortunately, the Defence Secretary is committed to leaving that day for Oman and, given Omani sensitivities, we have concluded that it would not be right to alter his plans: the Saudis are aware of this difficulty. We are therefore planning that Mr Lamont will accompany Prince Sultan. I should mention that the Saudis, on an unofficial channel, have enquired whether the Prime Minister would wish to take part in the visit to Warton - I assume she

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 10 Downing Street

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would not. They have also, on an official channel, enquired about her availability for the dinner that evening - again I would assume that she would not wish to do this but I wonder whether we should not seek to depute an appropriately senior Cabinet Minister?

I should be most grateful for your early guidance.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard (FCO).

Yours etc.

Richard Mottram

(R C MOTTRAM)

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PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 1985

Dress: Non-Ceremonial Day Uniform.

1400(?) Arrive London Heathrow Airport by Special Flight
from Riyadh , Southside Suite.

Met by the Secretary of State for Defence, The Right
Honourable Michael Heseltine MP.

Leave the Airport by car.

Arrive at the hotel.

No official engagements for the remainder of the day.

THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER

Dress: Non-Ceremonial Day Uniform.

- 1115 Leave the hotel.
- 1130 Arrive Ministry of Defence, Horseguards Avenue entrance.
Met by the Secretary of State for Defence, The Right Honourable Michael Heseltine MP.
Received by a Guard of Honour found by

with the Regimental Colour, the Corps of Drums of the Battalion and the Band of the
- 1135 Photo-call in the office of the Secretary of State for Defence.
- 1140 Plenary discussions.
- 1245 Leave Ministry of Defence.
- 1300 Arrive Lancaster House, St James's SW1.
- 1300 Luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government.
for
1315 Host: The Secretary of State for Defence, The Right Honourable Michael Heseltine MP.
- 1430 Leave Lancaster House.
- [] Arrive 10 Downing Street.
Call on the Prime Minister, The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher MP.
~~Leave 10 Downing Street.~~
~~Arrive at the hotel.~~
~~Leave the hotel.~~
~~Arrive 10 Downing Street.~~
- [] Dinner given by Her Majesty's Government.
Host: The Prime Minister, The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher :
↓ Leave 10 Downing Street.

FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER

Dress: Non-Ceremonial Day Uniform.

0930 Leave the hotel.

0955 Arrive Royal Air Force Station Northolt.

1000 Depart by HS 146 Aircraft.

1100 Arrive British Aerospace Airfield Warton.
Met by Group Chairman, Sir Austin Pearce.

1105 Visit the Saudi Arabian Support Department.

1200 Visit Tornado Production Facility and static aircraft display.

1300 Luncheon
Host: Group Chairman, Sir Austin Pearce.

1430 Depart British Aerospace Airfield Warton.

1530 Arrive Royal Air Force Station Northolt.

1535 Leave RAF Northolt by car.

1600 Arrive at the hotel.

1815 Leave the hotel.

1830 Arrive at the

Reception given by His Excellency Sheikh Nasser H Almanqour,
Saudi Arabian Ambassador, London.

2030 Arrive Residence of His Excellency the Ambassador of Saudi
Arabia.
Dinner given by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdula
Aziz Al Saud.

Dress:

SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

Leave the hotel.

1400 or
1500

Arrive London Heathrow Airport, Southside Suite.

Board Special Flight departing
at hours for New York.

The Minister of State for Defence Procurement, Mr Norman
Lamont MP, will bid farewell.

