

ADVANCE COPIES

TERRORISM/HI-JACKING EMERGENCY

44

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 MR E STRONG SP2 } DEPT OF TRANSPORT  
 MR JF LANGLEY IA2C }

NO. 10 DOWNING STREET

ASSESSMENTS STAFF }  
 D I O }  
 SIR R ARMSTRONG } CABINET OFFICE  
 SIR A DUFT }  
 MR D COLVIN }  
 MR N BRIND }

MR D HILARY }  
 MR R HARRINGTON } F4 HOME OFFICE

DS 5 )  
 DS 6 ) MOD  
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SECURITY SERVICES (2 copies via  
 PUSD Rm E203)

RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE

30.11.84

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY FCO 081300Z

FM KUWAIT 081130Z DEC 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 446 OF 8 DEC

INFO IMMEDIATE TEHRAN, BEIRUT, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

MY TELNO 445: KUWAIT HIJACKING

1. FURTHER CONVERSATIONS THIS MORNING, ESPECIALLY A MEETING WITH US AMBASSADOR, SUPPORT THE CONCLUSIONS IN TUR. I BELIEVE THAT THE KUWAIT GOVERNMENT REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THE ONLY WAY OF HANDLING THE CRISIS IS TO CONTINUE THEIR FIRM AND RESOLUTE LINE THAT THEY WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH THE HIJACKERS UNTIL ALL THE PASSENGERS ARE RELEASED. YESTERDAY, FOR EXAMPLE, THEY REFUSED TO CARRY THE HIJACKERS' TEXT ON KUWAIT RADIO. THEY ARE ALSO BECOMING INCREASINGLY FED UP AND ANGRY WITH THE IRANIANS. THEY ARE HOWEVER STICKING TO THEIR LINE THAT IT IS NOT FOR THEM TO TELL THE IRANIANS HOW TO MANAGE THEIR BUSINESS.

2. THE KUWAITIS HAVE APPEALED TO EVERYONE THEY CAN THINK OF TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE IRANIANS. THE AMIR, THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN ASKING WORLD LEADERS, INCLUDING KING FAHD, PRESIDENTS ASSAD AND ZIA AL HAQ, AND OTHERS, TO WEIGH IN WITH THE AYOTOLLAH AND OTHER IRANIAN LEADERS. WITH THE ACTIVE HELP OF THE US ADMINISTRATION, THEY HAVE ALSO APPEALED TO WESTERN GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING JAPAN, FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY.

3. US AMBASSADOR SHOWED ME IN CONFIDENCE (PLEASE PROTECT)

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TEXT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S MESSAGE TO THE AMIR WHICH WAS BASICALLY  
ONE OF WARM ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THEIR RESOLUTE ACTION SO FAR AND OF  
CONTINUED ACTIVE U.S. SUPPORT. THE AMERICANS HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY  
HEARD THAT THE AMIR AND OTHER SENIOR KUWAITIS WERE VERY GRATEFUL.

PM seen  
8/12.

4. WHILE I RECOGNISE THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO BE SEEN TO BE COPYING  
THE AMERICANS, I THINK THIS WOULD BE A GOOD MOMENT FOR US TO SEND  
A SIMILAR MESSAGE, PERHAPS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO SHAIKH SA'AD,  
RECOGNISING THE RESOLUTE STAND OF THE KUWAITIS AND PROMISING BRITISH  
SUPPORT. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF THE MAIN ADVOCATES OF THE  
NEED TO RESIST TERRORIST'S BLACKMAIL AND I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IN  
OUR GENERAL INTERESTS, AS WELL AS HELPFUL TO ANGLO-KUWAITIS RELATIONS  
TO BE SEEN TO BE SUPPORTING THE KUWAITIS AT THIS VERY DIFFICULT  
TIME FOR THEM.

MELHUSH

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SECRET

NO FORN DISSEM

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NO 25/07/82

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