

AD

GR 130  
UNCLASSIFIED  
DESKBY FCO 231900Z  
FM JEDDA 231821Z JAN 85  
TO IMMEDIATE F.C.O.  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 54 OF 23RD JANUARY 1985.

INFO IMMEDIATE RIYADH.

YOUR TELNO 5 TO RIYADH AND TELECON MUIR/BLATHERWICK(EESD):  
SAUDI OIL PRICE

1. WE HAVE SPOKEN TO THE JOURNALIST WHO WROTE THE ARTICLE IN TODAY'S 'ARAB NEWS' (ALSO CARRIED IN 'SHARQ AL AWSAT') ALLEGING AN AGREEMENT TO REDUCE THE DOLLARS 29 BENCHMARK BY DOLLARS 2.5, HE CLAIMED THAT HIS PIECE HAD BEEN BADLY EDITED : HIS ORIGINAL STORY, TO WHICH HE STICKS, SUGGESTED A 50-70 CENT CUT IN THE BENCHMARK.

2. HE HAS TOLD US THAT YAMANI TELEPHONED HIM TODAY TO SAY THAT ALL THAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT THE MEETINGS IN RIYADH (MY TELNO 51 ) WERE DIFFERENTIALS NOT (NOT) A CUT IN THE BENCHMARK. THE 'ARAB NEWS' WILL CARRY THIS TOMORROW. THIS SUPPORTS THE ASSESSMENT IN RIYADH TELNO 107.

3. EESD PLEASE ARRANGE FURTHER REPETITION.

WRIGHT

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