

00 WASHINGTON

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*Rickells.
Private Office
652*

M. EGERTON.

GRS 200

SECRET

DEDIP

DESKBY 140900Z

FM JEDDA 140745Z FEB 85

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 083 OF 14TH FEBRUARY 1985

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON (STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR AMBASSADOR).

FOLLOWING STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR EGERTON.

F C O TELNO 65 TO JEDDA: OIL PRICES.

1. I AM ASKING MILNE, IN MUIR'S IMMINENT ABSENCE ON LEAVE, TO TAKE ACTION WITH THE SAUDI MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT IN PRACTICE THIS WILL NOT BE BEFORE 16 FEBRUARY.

? 2. MEANWHILE, I UNDERSTAND (MY PERSONAL LETTER OF 9 FEBRUARY TO YOU) THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN POSSIBLE FOR MR WALKER TO MEET SHAIKH YAMANI AS FORESHADOWED IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE WHICH I DELIVERED ON 13 JANUARY (MY TELNO 27). SINCE I UNDERSTAND FROM SIR JAMES BLYTH THAT KING FAHD IS LIKELY TO REPLY TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE FOLLOWING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON, I WONDER WHETHER THERE WOULD NOT BE ADVANTAGE IN MR WALKER CONVEYING THE INFORMATION IN YOUR TUR BY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO SHAIKH YAMANI IN WASHINGTON? ALTERNATIVELY, YOU MIGHT WISH TO INSTRUCT SIR O WRIGHT TO TRY TO SPEAK TO YAMANI HIMSELF. EITHER ACTION WOULD AT LEAST BE SEEN BY KING FAHD AND YAMANI HIMSELF, AS AN EARNEST OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATED ANXIETY TO "HAVE THE FULLEST EXCHANGES" WITH THE SAUDIS ON OIL MATTERS SEMI COLON BUT WE NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY.

WRIGHT

NNNN

107-5-1



14 FEB 1985

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