

MIDDLE EAST

PSW
PS/MR RENTON
PS/PUS
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR FERGUSON
SIR D. MILES.
HD/NENAD
HD/MED

NO. 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE DIO

IMMEDIATE

PUSD (2)
NEWS DEPT
GRS 300

ADVANCE COPY

CONFIDENTIAL
FM AMMAN

TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 40

OF 271140Z JANUARY 86
INFO PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM, DAMASCUS,
INFO PRIORITY CAIRO, WASHINGTON.

ARAB/ISRAEL

SUMMARY

1. ACTIVITY IN AMMAN THIS WEEK COULD BE IMPORTANT FOR THE PEACE PROCESS. BOTH ARAFAT AND US REPRESENTATIVES ARE BOTH HERE. SOME INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS.

DETAIL

2. ARAFAT HAD A WORKING LUNCH AND A FURTHER MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN ON 26 JANUARY AND IS TO MEET HIM AGAIN LATER TODAY. ARAFAT IS ACCOMPANIED BY SALAH KHALEF, HANI AL HASSAN, MOHAMMED MILHEM, ABDEL RAHIM AHMAD, JAWEED AL GHUSSEIN, MAHMOUD ARRAS, ABDEL RAZZAK AL YAHYA AND AL SAYEH.

3. SUDDARTH (STATE DEPARTMENT) AND CLUVERIUS ARE ALSO HERE AND SAW THE JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ON 26 JANUARY.

4. COMMENTING ON THE PEACE PROCESS TO ME TODAY THE JORDANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER HAD DONE WELL IN PUBLIC RELATIONS TERMS IN LONDON BY CONVEYING THE (FALSE) IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS MORE POSITIVE THAN KING HUSSEIN ON THE PEACE PROCESS. JORDAN HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT PERES HAD SHOWN RATHER MORE FLEXIBILITY SINCE HIS MEETING WITH MRS THATCHER.

5. THE AMERICANS WERE NOW SHOWING A FAR GREATER SENSE OF URGENCY AND HAD MOVED FORWARD SOMEWHAT BOTH ON THE ROLE OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION. ARAFAT, IN HIS DISCUSSIONS HERE YESTERDAY, HAD ALSO MOVED A LITTLE BUT IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN WHETHER JORDAN COULD REALLY TIE HIM DOWN.

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AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT FROM KING HUSSEIN WHEN THIS ROUND OF
ACTIVITY IS COMPLETED. ALTHOUGH I WELL UNDERSTAND THAT ARAB/
ISRAEL CANNOT HAVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IN LONDON AT THE
MOMENT ANY MESSAGE WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER MAY BE PLANNING
TO SEND THE KING ABOUT THE PEACE PROCESS WILL HAVE MOST
EFFECT IF IT IS DELIVERED SOON THIS WEEK. FOR I SUSPECT
THAT JORDANIAN/PLO AND JORDANIAN/AMERICAN DISCUSSIONS COULD
MOVE AHEAD QUITE QUICKLY,

COLES

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ALHPAN 0419

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