

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 969046
By WDP/KARA Date 11/8/00



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACTION MEMORANDUM

7319222
7319223

S/S

COPIES TO:
NEA LH
S/S-RF

~~SECRET/EXDIS~~

TO: The Secretary

FROM: NEA - Joseph J. Sisco

OCT 12 1973

Handwritten notes:
10/13
POL 15-1 2NS
POL 15-1 SAUD

Proposed Presidential Message
to King Faisal

As you know, our Charge in Jidda transmitted an oral message on October 11 from King Faisal to the President in which the King urges the U.S. to take action to bring about an end to hostilities and to have Israel withdraw from occupied territories. In your meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saqqaf on October 12, you said that we would be promptly responding to Faisal's message.

In view of the present circumstances in the Middle East where emotional reactions are strong, we find the substance of the King's message to be relatively moderate, and believe this sense of moderation was also conveyed to you by Saqqaf during his meeting with you. By getting a Presidential message back quickly to King Faisal, this will reassure His Majesty that he is being heard. At the same time, it may encourage him not to become more actively involved in the hostilities.

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President at Tab A and approve the proposed oral message.

Attachments:

- Tab A - Memorandum to the President.
- Tab B - Jidda 4421 (SECRET/EXDIS)

SECRET/EXDIS
GDS--DECLAS Dec. 31, 1981

Drafted: NEA/ARP:FMDickman:bg
x22647:10/12/73

Concurrence: NEA - Mr. Atherton

MICROFILMED
BY S/SI

Vertical handwritten note:
POL 15-1 2NS / before XR POL 15-1 SAUD

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FORM DS 322 (OCR)

SECRET

W...
10/11/73
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NEA/ARP: BWRAMPPELMEIER:FMDICKMAN:BGG
10/12/73 X20920
THE SECRETARY

NEA:ALATHERTON
WHITE HOUSE - GEN. SCOWCROFT

NEA:JJSISCO
S/S - MR. PICKERING

IMMEDIATE NIACT JIDDA

ROUTINE

AMMAN, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV, LONDON, USUN NEW YORK,
TRIPOLI, KUWAIT, DHAHRAN

EXDIS

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, MASS, MARR, SA, IS, US, XF
SUBJ: REPLY TO KING FAISAL'S ORAL MESSAGE

REF: JIDDA 4417

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO KING FAISAL IN RESPONSE TO KING'S ORAL MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT TRANSMITTED REFTEL AND ALSO THROUGH SAUDI AMBASSADOR SOWAYYEL. QUOTE:

YOUR MAJESTY: I WAS GLAD TO RECEIVE YOUR MESSAGES. DURING THIS CRITICAL PERIOD I CONSIDER IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WE STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH. LIKE YOU, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS SITUATION BE RESOLVED IN A MANNER THAT WILL SAFEGUARD OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS IN THE AREA AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR MUTUAL OBJECTIVE OF BRINGING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST. WE SHARE WITH YOUR MAJESTY A STRONG DESIRE TO AVOID PROLONGATION OF THE FIGHTING AND ESPECIALLY TO KEEP THE CONFLICT FROM SPREADING TO INVOLVE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE NOT NOW COMBATANTS. WE TOO ARE CONCERNED THAT THE SOVIET UNION NOT BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO REASSERT ITS INFLUENCE IN THIS AREA.

I REGRET THAT THIS RESORT TO VIOLENCE HAS COMPLICATED THE EFFORTS WHICH WE HAD BEEN PURSUING WITH THE SEVERAL PARTIES IN SUPPORT OF A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE SETTLEMENT

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SECRET

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OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS. SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD ALREADY BEGUN EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN NEW YORK PRIOR TO THE OUT-BREAK OF HOSTILITIES ON OCTOBER 6. IN HIS MEETING SHORTLY BEFORE WITH YOUR MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. SAQQAF, THE SECRETARY HAD INDICATED OUR INTENTION TO PURSUE ACTIVELY THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND OUR DESIRE FOR SAUDI ARABIA'S HELP IN THIS ENDEAVOR. THIS CONTINUES TO BE OUR INTENTION.

YOUR MAJESTY, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS DOING ALL THAT IT POSSIBLY CAN TO BRING HOSTILITIES TO AN EARLY END. WE STRONGLY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS MUST BE DONE IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE PROCESS OF DIPLOMACY CAN ONCE AGAIN TAKE HOLD AND THAT GENUINE PROGRESS TOWARD A LASTING PEACE CAN BE OBTAINED.

AS SECRETARY KISSINGER EXPLAINED TO MINISTER SAQQAF IN THEIR MEETING OCTOBER 12, THE OBJECTIVE OF THE US IS TO BRING ABOUT AN END TO HOSTILITIES AND LAY A BASIS FOR ACHIEVING A JUST SETTLEMENT. IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT DURING THIS CRITICAL TIME TO CONDUCT OURSELVES IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT WILL NOT BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE US TO PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE ONCE THE FIGHTING IS OVER. I UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE DELICATE POSITION IN WHICH SAUDI ARABIA FINDS ITSELF. I FIND ENCOURAGING THAT YOUR MAJESTY'S STATESMANSHIP IS BEING MADE FELT ON THE SIDE OF MODERATION AND GOOD SENSE.

LET ME REASSURE ALSO YOUR MAJESTY THAT OUR POLICY AT THIS TIME IS NOT ONE-SIDED. AS I SAID ON SEPTEMBER 5, THE U.S. IS NEITHER PRO-ISRAEL NOR PRO-ARAB: IT IS PRO-PEACE. CONSEQUENTLY, IN THE DIFFICULT HOURS AND DAYS AHEAD, I BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO HELP BRING ABOUT A RESTORATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH WE CAN RENEW EFFECTIVELY THE SEARCH FOR A JUST AND LASTING POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

IN CLOSING I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I PERSONALLY APPRECIATED MINISTER SAQQAF'S ASSURANCES CONVEYED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT SAUDI ARABIA CONTINUES TO DESIRE CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE US. THIS TOO IS MY GOVERNMENT'S POLICY AND ONE WHICH I INTEND TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY.
END QUOTE.

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