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7 Action

MESSAGE CENTER

Control: 2944 Rec'd: September 8, 1952

I Info

FROM: Jidda, Saudi Arabia

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 179, September 7, 5 p.m. 139

EUR NEA H OLI P IFI IBS

Re DEFTCIRTEL 210 Aug 26, pouched Jidda from Cairo

DECLASSIFIED Authority NAD 852993 NARA Date 6/4/72

Amb Mare now Washn consultation and may be contacted NEA for personal comments REFTEL. In his absence offer fol comments:

(1) In order avoid offend Saudi sensibilities and taking into consideration fact that forceful pursuit USIE objectives wld. endanger entire program, believe that in general various projects shld be introduced only after ascertaining that they will not (rpt not) be opposed by SAG and that they will not (rpt not) be considered objectionable by the few literate Saudis. Goal is emphasis Saudi-Amer friendship and coop as between two equals in effort obtain Saudi coop internationally and, it seems to us here, of equal importance, protect US oil investment SA.

(2) Very slight. Population too illiterate and too disinterested international affairs. Anti-Commie propoganda not (rpt not) necessary and not (rpt not) welcome, and any overt or pushy device dangerous.

(3) Exchange of persons probably most valuable. Hope that in future assistance to Saudi education will be more welcome and more effective whether through TCA or other medium.

(4) Beside small alien staff which engaged in administrative support USIE have only part-time service one FSS-5 who also assigned political, protection, disbursing and post security duties. This officer has promoted establishment Saudi commercial college in company Saudi friends, has attempted, vainly, so far, form Saudi-Amer committee examine educational needs and design long-term program and has diligently pursued exchange of persons program in face SAG apathy and occasional opposition.

(5) All agreed as to unfortunate inapplicability here.

(6) Suggest more individual approach to post's problems and avoidance wide use of circular tels and airgrams. Answer yw...

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Correction made by DC/R