



DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 969049  
By CM NARA Date 6-12-08

of State **TELEGRAM**

14

POL KUW-US

BEIRUT 6084  
5-25-73

CONFIDENTIAL 095

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06084 251428Z

72

ACTION NEA-12 **1973-S-25, Trade Unions**

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10  
LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03  
NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OM-01 TRSE-00

RSR-01 /107 W

\*\*\*\*\* 037814

R 251333Z MAY 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2323  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6084

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: FPOR XF US KU

SUBJECT: STRAWS IN WIND RE US-ARAB RELATIONS

1. DURING THREE YEARS OF TRAVELING IN MIDDLE EAST REGION, REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE HAS NOTED DEFINITE CORRELATION BETWEEN HIS ABILITY TO SPEAK WITH ARAB TRADE UNIONISTS AND GENERAL ARAB ATTITUDES WITH REGARD TO THEIR VIEW OF US POSITION IN ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. HOWEVER DURING RECENT VISIT TO KUWAIT (MAY 18-21), THIS SITUATION REACHED NEW LOW. IN SPITE OF STRENUOUS EFFORTS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITH KUWAITI TRADE UNION LEADERS, NO APPOINTMENTS PROVED POSSIBLE WITH TOP LEADERSHIP AND SECOND LEVEL BALDLY STATED THAT THEY UNABLE TO MEET WITH LABATT WITHOUT PRESENCE OF TOP LEADERS.

2. THIS IS FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS THAT LABATT HAS MET WITH TOTAL REFUSAL TO SEE HIM. RESPONSE IN PAST HAS VARIED BETWEEN OPEN WELCOME BY TOP LEADERS, TO WELCOME ACCOMPANIED BY LONG LECTURES ON MISTAKES OF US POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST, OR MEETINGS ONLY WITH SECOND ECHELON. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT AT PRESENT KUWAITI TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP FEELING HEAT OF ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT TO DEGREE BOTH TOP LEVEL AND SECOND ECHELON UN-

CONFIDENTIAL