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SECRET/EXDIS

August 18, 1973

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1973-8-18, Faisal, Nixon Letter #

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Amendments to Letter from the
President to King Faisal

Attached is a revision of the latest draft of the proposed letter to King Faisal from the President which the Department has reviewed to bring it up to date and to take into consideration our recent vote in the United Nations Security Council on the skyjacking of the MEA airliner by Israel.

We have made three substantive changes:

- AL SAUD-23*
- A. In the third paragraph of the letter, after the sentence ending with "Communist-supported subversion" we have inserted a new sentence taking note of Minister of Defense Prince Sultan's July 14 policy statement on the Persian Gulf where he said Saudi Arabia would come to the assistance of its smaller neighbors in the area.
- B. In the sentence which follows in the same paragraph, we have changed the word "all" to "what" in referring to the nature of United States help to strengthen the Saudi role to achieve stability in the region. Faisal could interpret "all" as meaning that we would be prepared to take on financial or other commitments in Oman and Yemen beyond what we have already agreed. Faisal, in any event, does not understand the Congressional limitations on United States economic and grant military aid to these countries.
- C. In the third to last paragraph, referring to the role played by the United States in the United Nations,

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GDS--DECLAS Dec. 31, 1981