



DECLASSIFIED
 Authority E 012958
 By CM NARA Date 11/7/08

Department of State

TELEGRAM

1974-3-11, Faisal, Syria, Israel
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PAGE 01 JIDDA 01182 111312Z

43 ACTION 88-30

INFO OCT-01 190-00 990-00 NSCE-00 /031 W
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O R 111015Z MAR 74
 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6885
 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
 AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
 AMEMBASSY CAIRO
 USINT DAMASCUS

~~S E C R E T~~ JIDDA 1182

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E.O. 11652: XGDS
 TAGS: MOPS, SY, EG, SA
 SUBJECT: SAUDI ATTEMPTS TO DAMPEN SYRIAN ARDOR FOR RENEWED HOSTILITIES AGAINST ISRAEL

1. PRINCE SULTAN, SAUDI MINISTER OF DEFENSE, TOLD ME YESTERDAY MORNING (MARCH 10) THAT FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN RECEIVING REPORTS THAT SYRIA WAS PREPARING ITSELF FOR AN ATTACK ON THE 1973 ISRAELI BALTENT INTO SYRIA.
2. KING FAISAL SENT HIS SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE ADVISOR KAMAL ADHAM TO SYRIA LATE MARCH 9 TO WARN SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD NOT TO BE PROVOKED INTO ANY SPECIAL ACTION AND PARTICULARLY NOT TO DO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE CURRENT PEACE EFFORT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER.
3. ADHAM WAS ALSO INSTRUCTED TO POINT OUT THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD CERTAINLY RECEIVED THIS INTELLIGENCE AND WOULD BE PREPARED FOR ANY ATTACK SYRIANS MIGHT MAKE.
4. SULTAN TOLD ME, BUT SAID THE SYRIANS HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED, THAT THE SAUDI TROOP COMMANDERS IN SYRIA HAD BEEN WARNED ORALLY OF THIS POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT AND

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 E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5
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 [2 pages]

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INSTRUCTED NOT REPEAT NOT TO MOVE NONE. HARRIS BREADTH
TOWARD THE SALIENT UNTIL THEY RECEIVED FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS
FROM RIYACH - EVEN IF THEIR SYRIAN COMMANDER WERE TO
ORDER THEM TO MOVE. SULTAN SAID KING FAISAL HAD ALSO
ASKED EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SABAT TO WEIGH IN WITH THE
SYRIANS AND HE (SULTAN) SAID THE U.S. SHOULD ALSO TRY
TO DO WHAT IT COULD TO CALM MATTERS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT
THIS MISCHIEF HAD BEEN INSPIRED BY IRAQ AND THE SOVIET
UNION.

6. SEVERAL SAUDIS HAVE TOLD US THAT IRAQ HAS RECENTLY
GIVEN SYRIA A GIFT OF 150 MILLION DOLLARS. SULTAN
THOUGHT THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN AN IRAQI INDUCEMENT TO SYRIA
EITHER TO ATTACK THE SALIENT OR TO DISRUPT THE MEETING
OF ARAB OIL MINISTERS NOW SCHEDULED FOR TRIPOLI ON MARCH 13.

7. I SAW KAMAL ADHAM LATE YESTERDAY EVENING (HE RETURNED
AT DAWN FROM DAMASCUS). HE SAID HE HAD MET FOR SEVERAL
HOURS WITH PRESIDENT ASAD AND HAD URGED THE SYRIANS NOT
TO MOVE. HE SAID THEY SHOULD DO NOTHING WHICH COULD
DISRUPT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PEACE EFFORTS. HE SAID HE
IMPLIED TO ASAD THAT IF THE SYRIANS WERE TO MOVE
NEITHER SAUDI ARABIA NOR EGYPT WOULD GIVE THEM ASSISTANCE.
HE SAID HE TOLD ASAD THAT IF KISSINGER'S EFFORTS AT
DISENGAGEMENT FAIL (GOD FORBID) THEN OBVIOUSLY THE MATTER
OF RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES WILL HAVE TO BE REVIEWED.

8. ADHAM SAID ASAD AGREED. ASAD SAID THERE HAD BEEN
SYRIAN MANEUVERS NEAR THE FRONT BUT HE HAD NOT RPT NOT
INTENDED TO ATTACK THE ISRAELI FORCES. NOR WOULD HE
DO SO WITHOUT COORDINATING WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT.
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