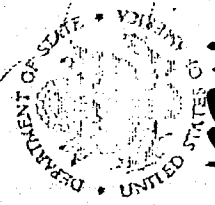


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Authority E.O. 12958  
By NS NARA Date 10/12/01

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Department of State TELEGRAM

1974-4-20, ~~SECRET~~ NIXON, Letter To

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0 021435Z APR 74  
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6615  
BT

2 APRIL 11 17 AM

~~SECRET~~  
JIDDA 1693

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: IPFOR, ENRG, SA, US  
SUBJECT: KING FAISAL'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S LETTER  
OF MARCH 23, 1974

REF: STATE 50878

1. ON APRIL 2 DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMED MAS'UD  
PRESENTED CHARGE WITH KING FAISAL'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT  
NIXON'S LETTER OF MARCH 23. KING'S LETTER DATED APRIL 1;  
EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

"HIS EXCELLENCY  
PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

YOUR EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT:

"I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER DATED MARCH 23, 1974 (A.D.) IN  
WHICH YOU EXPRESSED YOUR APPRECIATION FOR THE RESULT WE  
ACHIEVED IN VIENNA OF LIFTING THE BOYCOTT ON THE UNITED STATES;  
IN THANKING YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR YOUR SINCERE FEELING AND  
YOUR NOBLE EMOTIONS, I PRAY TO ALMIGHTY GOD THAT YOUR  
EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE  
MIDDLE EAST MAY BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS.

"YOUR EXCELLENCY IS UNDOUBTEDLY FULLY AWARE OF THE DIFFI-  
CULTIES WHICH LAY IN THE WAY OF REACHING THE DECISION TO LIFT  
THE BOYCOTT. OUR FIRM CONVICTION OF THE RESOLVE OF THE  
UNITED STATES AND OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE PROMISES WHICH YOUR  
EXCELLENCY AND YOUR SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE MADE ON  
VARIOUS OCCASIONS ABOUT THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO REACH A JUST SETTLEMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM  
STRENGTHENED OUR DETERMINATION AND PROMPTED US TO CONTINUE  
EFFORTS AND CONTACTS TO REALIZE THIS POSITIVE RESULT.

~~SECRET~~

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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5  
By NS NARA, Date 01 AUG 2007  
[2 pages]  
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"AS YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOWS, THE PERIOD OF TWO MONTHS WHICH PRECEDES THE MEETING OF ARAB PETROLEUM MINISTERS MUST BE CONCLUSIVE; IN THAT TIME, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE DISENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE SYRIAN AND ISRAELI FORCES ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS; THE PASSAGE OF THESE TWO MONTHS, HOWEVER, WITHOUT ACHIEVING POSITIVE EFFECTIVE STEPS ON THIS MATTER WILL PUT US IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION BEFORE OUR ARAB BROTHEREN AND WILL NOT FACILITATE THE GROWTH OF THE COOPERATION THAT SHOULD BE REALIZED BETWEEN OUR TWO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES.

"I AM FULLY CONFIDENT IN YOUR EXCELLENCY'S FAR-SIGHTEDNESS AND YOUR FULL CONSIDERATION OF ALL MATTERS, AND THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY'S WISDOM -- ACCOMPANIED BY RESOLUTION -- SHALL OVERCOME ALL OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH MAY STAND IN THE WAY OF DISENGAGEMENT ON THE GOLAN FRONT (WHICH SHALL CONSTITUTE THE FIRST PRACTICAL STEP TOWARD COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES). /S/ FASIAL AL-SAUD, RIYADH, RIYADH, 9 RABI' AL-AWAL 1394 A. H. (CORRESPONDING TO APRIL 1, 1974 A. D.)"

2. ORIGINAL OF LETTER BEING POUCHED NEA/ARP, ATTENTION OF HR, DICKMAN.

3. HAS'UD ASKED WHETHER DEPARTMENT COULD EXPEDITE DESPATCH OF SIGNED ORIGINAL OF PRESIDENT'S MARCH 23 LETTER. HE SAID FAISAL DOES NOT AS A RULE LIKE TO SEND REPLIES TO STATE MESSAGES PRIOR TO RECEIVING SIGNED ORIGINAL, AND THAT HE REACTS TESTILY WHENEVER MFA FEELS (AS IT DID IN THIS CASE) THAT AN EARLIER RESPONSE IS REQUIRED.

HORAN

~~SECRET~~

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