

DECLASSIFIED

Authority E.O. 12958

By W NARA Date 10-12-07

SANITIZED COPY

MEMORANDUM

1978-7-30, Faisal,
Fahd, Invitation

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

4004

3665

4190-X

4203-X

~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE (XGDS)

July 30, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER

FROM: HAROLD H. SAUNDERS *hhs*

SUBJECT: US-Saudi Dialogue: Possible Invitation to Prince Fahd

You are aware of the proposal from Mr. Rush to send a mission to Saudi Arabia [Tab B]. You now have a memo from Peter Flanigan urging that King Faisal be invited on a visit here in late August or September instead. [Tab A]. The purpose of this memo is to propose an alternative to both.

I fully understand your reservations about sending a mission to Saudi Arabia--especially now that Love, Simons, Clements, Casey, Rush and Sisco all see themselves going. At the same time, there is still a strong argument for carrying on serious discussion with key Saudis about a common strategy for the area. We have major interests there and every reason to try to establish a realistic basis for cooperation.

Thus the issue is not whether we should have a political dialogue with the Saudis--but how we can have a rational dialogue without getting bogged down in Faisal's anti-Zionist emotionalism.

Sending the kind of people who are available to Saudi Arabia to talk to King Faisal does not offer great hope of success.

[REDACTED] Sending a person who could speak authoritatively for the President would be productive, but apart from you I don't know who that would be.

Since you are the obvious one to do the job, the alternative to a mission to Saudi Arabia is to find a good Saudi to talk with here. You have indicated your willingness to do this with Yamani, but he is a technocrat with a limited political role.

~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE (XGDS)

XGDS - 1, 2

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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

By W Date 07/15/07

[ps 1044]

DECLAS - Date Impossible to Determine.
BYAUTH - Dr. Henry A. Kissinger

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