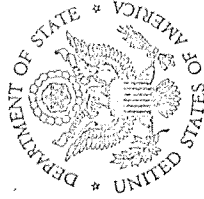


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Authority E.O. 12958

By *WJ* NARA Date *10/12/01*

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TELEGRAM

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THAT UNLESS BRITISH HAVE SOMETHING SPECIFIC RE THESE ISLANDS TO PUT TO SHAH, LATTER MAY WELL REACT THAT BRITISH UNWILLING TO PRESS SHEIKHS TO REACH COMPROMISE WITH IRAN AND ARE SIMPLY TRYING TO DO SNOW JOB ON HIM.

5. ACCORDINGLY, WRIGHT SEEKING AUTHORITY FROM FONOFF TO DISCUSS SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WITH SHAH EMBODYING ELEMENTS OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAN AND SHEIKHDOMS WHICH, IF SHAH CONCURRED, BRITISH WOULD UNDERTAKE TO USE PRESSURE TO SELL TO SHARJA AND RAS=AL-KHAIMAH. WRIGHT DID NOT DEVELOP (NOR DID I ASK) SPECIFICS OF SUCH PROPOSALS BUT I GATHER THEY WOULD INCLUDE STATIONING OF SOME IRANIAN TROOPS ON ISLANDS ON SOME COOPERATIVE BASIS WITH FUZZING OF SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE SO THAT SHEIKHS WOULD NOT BE OBLIGED TO SURRENDER ANYTHING. WRIGHT DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS TYPE PROPOSAL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO SHAH BUT FEELS THAT IT WOULD (A) HELP ALLAY SHAH'S SUSPICION OF BRITISH MOTIVES AND (B) GET THINGS MOVING AT MOST CRITICAL TIME WHEN FURTHER DRIFT MUST BE AVOIDED IF ANY AGREEMENT IS TO BE REACHED. AND WITHOUT SOME AGREEMENT A MAJOR CRISIS IN IRAN'S RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN OR THE SHEIKHDOMS OR BOTH IS A REAL PROSPECT.

MACARTHUR

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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[9.3.043]