

## SAUDI ARABIA

### UNITED STATES POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA<sup>1</sup>

No. 1432

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*Memorandum of Conversation, by Robert Sturgill of the Office of  
Near Eastern Affairs*

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] January 21, 1952.<sup>2</sup>

Subject: Briefing of Col. H. E. Liebe.

Participants: U.S. Army—Col. H. E. Liebe

Lt. Col. T. R. Davis, Mediterranean—ME Section

G-3

NE—Mr. Awalt

Mr. Sturgill

#### *Summary:*

Col. Liebe said he had orders to depart for Saudi Arabia February 19 as part of the Advance Technical Group and would remain as Acting Chief in charge of the Army portion of the U.S. Military Training Mission to Saudi Arabia when that got started.<sup>3</sup> Col. Davis said the fourth member of the Advance Group would probably be an Air Force Major already in Saudi Arabia, although he had not been chosen yet. He also mentioned that it was contemplated that some enlisted personnel would be needed for administrative support of the Group, but that no one had been assigned.

Col. Davis' attention was called to the JCS decision to appoint a Major General Chief of the Mission and to the Department's understanding that General Day was to have been appointed Chief pro tem; and he was asked if orders to that effect had gone out.

Temporary utilization of the housing facilities at Taif, used by the British Military Training Team recently departed, was discussed. It was pointed out that the Department saw no objection to

<sup>1</sup> For previous documentation, see *Foreign Relations*, 1951, vol. v, pp. 1017 ff.

<sup>2</sup> This memorandum of conversation was prepared on Jan. 23.

<sup>3</sup> For previous documentation on this topic, see *Foreign Relations*, 1951, vol. v, pp. 1059 ff.; see in particular the editorial note, *ibid.*, p. 1064.