

be present at opening of "few packages". After my negative reply this suggestion Prince Feisal said he would refer to King my request release imports now impounded pending discussion Ambassador Wadsworth with SAG authorities. He said Yusuf who planned leave Riyadh tomorrow would submit question to King.

According Dunlop, acting commander US forces Dhahran following is status various categories imports and mail for base:

1. Since release impounded mail October 13 Saudis have not as yet impounded nor attempted inspect official mail including packages.

2. All intransit mail including packages released for shipment without inspection.

3. Saudis have refused release official cargo received Dammam without inspection but at present official cargo received via MATS or bases own aircraft not impounded.

4. Personal parcel post still impounded.

With reference last point Feisal stated there is possibility securing release without inspection all impounded packages in next few days by action local customs official.

Embassy will inform Department soon as information received regarding King's reaction to request presently impounded imports be released pending discussions Ambassador Wadsworth.

JONES

No. 1460

711.56386A/12-2060: Telegram

*The Consul at Dhahran (Hackler) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET PRIORITY

DHAHRAN, December 20, 1953—4 p. m.

97. From Jones. Department's 98, December 18.² King informed me at Riyadh yesterday he had received Crown Prince Feisal's message transmitting Embassy's request all mail and imports now impounded be released pending arrival Ambassador Wadsworth (Embassy telegram 275, December 16).³

King wished tell me he had given personal attention to Embassy's request and had decided grant it. He had sent instructions Feisal mail should be released and handled "in same way as

¹ Repeated to Jidda.

² Not printed; it informed the Embassy that the Saudi Arabian Ambassador told the Department of State he had received a message from the King stating he had ordered the release of all impounded mail and restoration of the status quo ante pending the arrival of Ambassador Wadsworth. (711.56386A/11-1953)

³ *Supra*.