

translation of the official Saudi Arabian account of the conversations with the British at Damman. (780.022/3-3152)

Previous negotiations on this topic had taken place in London in August 1951. Regarding the London Conference, see the memorandum of conversation of September 25, 1951, *Foreign Relations*, 1951, volume V, page 330.

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No. 1467

641.86A/3-1052 Telegram

*The Ambassador in Saudi Arabia (Hare) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET

JIDDA, March 10, 1952--4 p. m.

474. Long talk yesterday with Prince Faisal who said sent here by King from Riyadh especially discuss with me King's apprehensions re Brit. King had originally considered sending Faisal Wash but decided more discreet handle here. For same reason had deemed preferable have Faisal come here ostensibly for medical treatment rather than asking me come Riyadh.

According Faisal King increasingly concerned by what he regards as Brit political maneuvers contrary interests SA. King's own intentions entirely pacific but he definitely will not submit to measures directed against him even by Brit. Back of it all, he convinced, is Brit irritation because increasingly close Saudi-American relations recent years, but for policy reasons Brit ire cannot be directed at US, and SA therefore made objection their own pleasure. . . . Although situation perhaps not such warrant basing case on any one point, indices taken together clearly show disturbing pattern Brit anti-Saudi policy. Situation cld easily get out of control by accident or design and King feels strongly Brit shld be curbed before critical point reached. Why can't Brit leave well enough alone? That is all King asks.

In past King had approached us this regard and we had used good offices in endeavor narrow area difficulty but this neutral policy had not been effective and King now desired make serious plea for our taking matter up with Brit very firmly and seeking clear cut assurances they wld forego political machinations to disturb present political balance. I replied most this familiar ground and correct we had consistently followed policy not taking sides but trying promote agreement between our Brit and Saudi friends.

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<sup>1</sup> Repeated to London, Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, and Damascus.