

given Saudis no aid or comfort, expressed hope UK wld avoid any action leading to conflict opposing forces Buraimi, suggested SAG action in moving people into Buraimi possibly based SAG concern UK activity there (final para London Embtel 1458 rptd Jidda 9⁷) and SAG belief UK not intending resume boundary conf (para 5 London Embtel 1458). Dept expressed hope UK FonOff might see way clear inform SAG now its willingness resume conf as measure soften Saudi attitude.

ACHESON

⁷ Document 1474.

No. 1477

786A.00/9-2050: Telegram

*The Chargé in Saudi Arabia (Abbey) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

JIDDA, September 20, 1952—5 p. m.

163. Brit Chargé spent several days in Riyadh discussing Brit Buraimi note of protest² with King and Yussuf Yassin. He reported discussions involved with SAG remaining firm. He has referred entire matter back to London.

Yesterday, Act FonMin asked me to call and he read paraphrase of long oral reply given by King to Chargé.³ Main points were: SAG never considered Buraimi subj negotiations for reasons:

1. No Trucial Coast sheik has either actual or treaty jurisdiction in Buraimi, consequently HMG can not object to SAG action.

2. Documentation sent by Brit to King after treaty of Jidda⁴ did not state any Buraimi sheik as bound to Brit by covenant or pact.

3. Traditional ties with Saud family.

4. Buraimi not mentioned at London, discussions or Damman Conf consequently Buraimi absolute concern of SAG.

5. In spite of foregoing, Brit sent Wilton to Buraimi and did not recognize SAG protests and consequently assumed a right which it

¹ Repeated to London and Dhahrân.

² A copy of the British note was transmitted to the Department of State as an enclosure to despatch 87 from Jidda, Sept. 22, not printed. (786A.00/9-2252)

³ An English translation of the paraphrase of the King's oral reply was transmitted to the Department as an enclosure to despatch 87. (786A.00/9-2252)

⁴ For the text of the Treaty of Jidda between the United Kingdom and King Ibn Saud of the Hejaz and of Nejd and its Dependencies, May 20, 1927, see British Cmd. 2951, Treaty Series No. 25 (1927). Also for text and historical commentary and citations to treaties of renewal in 1936 and 1943, see J. C. Hurewitz, *Diplomacy in the Near and Middle East, A Documentary Record: Volume II, 1914-1956* (New York, D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 1956), pp. 149-150.