

would have to be made at a higher level. Sheikh Asad replied that he would have to request instructions from his Government before he could make a positive reply but that he was almost certain the King wished the US to work quietly behind the scenes. He remarked that he and his Government realized that the best way to settle the dispute was to sit down and talk about it. He reiterated that the Saudi Ambassador in London was now awaiting an answer from Mr. Eden on this point, and added that he would appreciate being informed of that answer if the Department learned of it before he did.

Sheikh Asad referred again to the possibility that the Al-Buraimi dispute would be presented to the Security Council, if it could not be settled with the British. He said Prince Feisal would head Saudi Arabia's delegation to the UN, and that, depending upon the seriousness of the dispute, Sheikh Yusuf Yassin, Deputy Foreign Minister, might come to the US to aid in presenting the case.

Mr. Byroade remarked that he hoped the case would not have to go to the UN. He emphasized to the Ambassador that the Department already had been talking to the British about the dispute and said we would talk to them again. Sheikh Asad thanked him and said he realized that the Department was sometimes in a difficult position to act on these matters but that he and his Government appreciated what was being done.

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Memorandum of Conversation, by the Director of the Office of Near Eastern Affairs (Hart)

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] September 30, 1952.

Subject: Controversy between Saudi Arabia and the U.K. regarding Buraimi.

Participants: Mr. B. A. B. Burrows, Counselor, British Embassy.
 Mr. R. W. Bailey, First Secretary, British Embassy.
 Mr. Thomas Beale, BNA.
 Mr. Parker T. Hart, NE.

Mr. Burrows came in at my request. I informed him of the conversation of September 29, 1952 between the Saudi Ambassador and Mr. Byroade¹ in which the Ambassador indicated that Sheikh Hafiz Wahba, Saudi Ambassador to the U.K., had been instructed

¹ See the memorandum of conversation, *supra*.