

Sultan to represent it vis-à-vis Saudi Arabia and had agreed to do so, it therefore felt as strongly about the Sultan's frontier position as it did regarding that of Abu Dhabi.

Burrows stated that he hoped that before the Department made up its mind as to acceptance of a Saudi request for mediation it would await the results of a telegram which he proposed to immediately send to London reporting this conversation. I agreed.

No. 1481

780.022/10-652: Telegram

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

SECRET
NIACT

DHAHRAN, October 6, 1952—11 a. m.

91. From Hare at Riyadh. Arrived here yesterday and received by King² who launched immediately into discussion Buraimi matter. He appeared deeply concerned by turn events taking there and mentioned number of British instigated incidents contributing tenseness situation (daily low flying flights over Saudi occupied Buraimi, stopping of food supplies to Saudi sector, preventing normal desert travel by demanding passports and visas, arresting of Saudi nationals and other restrictive and intimidating acts). He said tribes getting very restive and he could not control much longer. He had appealed to US for help and received no answer. British were committing acts aggression on his territory and now was time put President's letter to test.

I attempted put on brakes by observing we had already discussed informally with British and had heard of King's message to Eden proposing talks on Buraimi and other boundary questions. We also understood British Amb returning soon with new proposals. Why not follow through along that line?

King replied no answer from Eden. Furthermore, matters had gone too far and in any event he couldn't expect any really sincere proposals from Brit Only solution was for US intervene and

¹ Repeated to London and Jidda.

² In telegram 196 from Jidda, Oct. 2, the Ambassador informed the Department of State the King had asked him to come to Riyadh immediately to discuss the Buraimi question, and he asked the Department to advise him as soon as possible. (780.022/10-252) In answer, telegram 166 to Jidda, Oct. 2, advised the Ambassador the Department of State believed the United States should try to hold off Saudi pressure for stronger intercession with the British, at the same time continuing to promote the idea of friendly direct Saudi-British discussion. (780.022/10-252)