

replied that we might have to face taking a stand in the Security Council or acting on an arbitration body. Mr. Jernegan was inclined to accept the former if faced with a choice.

Mr. Young made a further plea for understanding the view of King Ibn Saud, which was based on highly emotional attachment to Buraimi. Mr. Fritzlan inquired why King Ibn Saud's attachment to Buraimi had become so highly emotional only in the last few months, in view of the fact that his family had not occupied or controlled the place since 1869. Mr. Young replied, jokingly, that Mr. Fritzlan had been reading British propaganda, but the latter stated that his statement was based on the scholarly work on Oman produced under the supervision of George Rentz (Aramco official).

In departing Messrs. Duce and Young stated they would confer with Department officials upon their return from London and Riyadh.

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No. 1514

786A.022/4-2053

*Memorandum of Conversations, by the First Secretary of the Embassy in the United Kingdom (Palmer)*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET

LONDON, April 16, 1953.

Subject: Boundaries between Saudi Arabia and Persian Gulf Sheikhdoms

Participants: Mr. Terry Duce, Vice President, Aramco  
 Mr. Archibald Ross, Head, Eastern Department,  
 Foreign Office  
 Mr. Paul Anderson—Jersey Director of IPC  
 Mr. A. Stebinger—Socony Director of IPC  
 Mr. Joseph Palmer 2nd, First Secretary, American  
 Embassy

Mr. Paul Anderson arranged a luncheon on April 16, at which the above-mentioned guests were present, for the purpose of enabling Mr. Terry Duce to reassure the British Foreign Office of Aramco's position in the Persian Gulf boundary dispute.

Mr. Duce introduced this phase of the conversation by stating that he would like to make clear to the British the position in which Aramco found itself. He said that Aramco had no particular interest in the disputed areas. The undisputed portions of its concession were already sufficiently large to provide for its require-

<sup>1</sup> This memorandum was transmitted to the Department of State as an enclosure to despatch 4998, Apr. 20. (786A.022/4-2053)