

point where there is strong hope for reasonable solution Buraimi issue, and it could serve to initiate calming effect which letter was intended to have, and did have, prior receipt this report.

BISHOP

No. 1521

280.922/6-3053: Telegram

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

SECRET NIACT

DHAHRAN, June 30, 1953—10 p. m.

254. Re Deptel 272 repeated information Jidda 697, London 8253.² Have just returned from Bahrein where I saw LeQuesne,³ First Secretary, Political Residency, who gave me following British version incident near Buraimi: Hay, who returned this morning from Kuwait, confirmed LeQuesne's remarks.

About nine months ago Shaikh Obaid Bin Jume of Beni Kab Tribe went to Turki and professed allegiance Saudi Arabia. He may also have gone Riyadh. At same time other leaders Beni Kab Tribe particularly Shaikh's nephew, Abdulla Bin Salim, resented Obaid's profession allegiance Saudi Arabia and went to British political agent at Sharja requesting protection. UK considers Beni Kab to be subjects of Sultan and territory where they lived to belong to Muscat. They informed Salim that he should obtain assistance from Sultan who later asked British provide protection for his "subjects". British, from time to time, subsequently sent Levies into Salim's village of Shirm at Sultan's request.

After "blockade" of Turki, all was quiet around Buraimi until about six weeks ago when Turki again became active and is believed to have instigated Obaid. On May 30 Obaid established "check point" at Mahadha and seized truck going to Buraimi. He announced at that time that all future supplies for [garble] Bin Sultan (who has remained loyal to Sultan of Muscat throughout dispute) and for Zaid Vin Khalifa (brother of ruler of Abu Dhabi and local governor at Buraimi) would be confiscated in reprisal for blockade of Amir Turki. About two and a half weeks ago vehicle belonging to Adenese Levies was shot at about dusk near this

¹ Repeated to Jidda and London.

² Dated June 29, not printed. It requested the Consul General to approach the British authorities in Bahrain regarding the report contained in telegram 250, *supra*, and telegram 249, which transmitted the letter of King Saud of June 28, Document 1519.

³ Charles Martin LeQuesne, British First Secretary and Consul at Bahrain.