

unfavorable repercussions on Saudi-British negotiations. Therefore, suggest Department have frank talk British Embassy Washington regarding latest developments in order show our continuing interest in achievement early and equitable solution this difficult problem. ⁴

JONES

⁴ According to a handwritten note in the margin, Jernegan planned to discuss the matter with officers of the British Embassy if he had a chance to do so in an informal and general way.

No. 1543

780.022/2-1554

The British Foreign Office to the Embassy in the United Kingdom ¹

SECRET

SAUDI ARABIA FRONTIER DISPUTE

H. M. Ambassador at Jeddah has been instructed to tell Sheikh Hafiz Wahba (now in Saudi Arabia), with whom we have conducted extensive discussions here and who is already aware of the lines on which our minds are working, that we are ready to go to arbitration on the following basis:

(a) That the Tribunal should be asked to decide:

- (i) The common Saudi/Abu Dhabi frontier; and
- (ii) Sovereignty over the Buraimi zone (i.e. a circle of 20 kilometres round Buraimi village).

(b) That we should be ready to agree:

(i) To the withdrawal from Buraimi oasis of Turki and his men to undisputed territory in Saudi Arabia and of the Trucial Oman Levies to undisputed territory on the Trucial Coast, and the substitution in the oasis of a small police group of up to fifteen men on each side.

(ii) To withdraw to undisputed territory our five Levy posts at present in the other disputed areas in the West, on condition that no armed men shall be introduced into or maintained in the disputed areas by the Saudi Government.

(c) All the above *provided* the oil operations of I.P.C. and A.I.O.C. go on. The former Company (to whose land concession the latter

¹ This memorandum was handed to an officer of the Embassy by an official of the British Foreign Office and was transmitted to the Department of State as an enclosure to despatch 2768, Feb. 15, not printed. (780.022/2-1554)