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FM FCO 101735Z JUNE 1980
TO PRIORITY JEDDA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 323 OF 10 JUNE.
SAUDI NOTE ON PALESTINE

1. SAUDI CHARGE TODAY DELIVERED TO MED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ME FROM PRINCE SAUD, AND ASKED FOR A REPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
2. CHARGE SAID A SIMILAR MESSAGE HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO 'MOST OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES'. WHEN PRESSED HE SAID IT HAD NOT GONE TO THE FRENCH BECAUSE THE SAUDIS HAD HAD BILATERAL TALKS WITH THEM.

BEGINS 'THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE EUROPEAN ATTITUDE CONCERNING THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE, AN ATTITUDE WHICH WILL BE FORMED WITHIN THE EUROPEAN SUMMIT MEETING IN VENICE AND TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUPPORT OF THE EEC TO THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY THEIR RIGHT IN SELF-DETERMINATION.

THE KINGDOM, OBSERVING THE ASPECTS OF RETREAT IN THE EUROPEAN INITIATIVE IN THE PRESENT STAGE OF THE PALESTINIAN CASE, BELIEVES THAT ANY POSTPONEMENT OF THE CASE WOULD HARM ITS PROCESS. ISRAEL WILL BE THE ONLY BENEFACOR OF SUCH A RETREAT.

THE KINGDOM HOPES THAT HER FRIENDS WILL PUSH THE EUROPEAN INITIATIVE A FURTHER STEP OR AT LEAST SUPPORT WHAT COMPRISES RECOGNITION OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE OF THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AT THIS STAGE.' ENDS

CARRINGTON

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