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OO DUBAI DESKBY 240600Z
OO ABU DHABI
GRS 375
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FM FCO 231450Z DECEMBER 80
TO IMMEDIATE DUBAI
TELEGRAM NUMBER 80 OF 23 DECEMBER
AND IMMEDIATE TO ABU DHABI
INFO MODUK, DS11, DEFENCE SALES
YOUR TELNOS 148 AND 149: HAWK SALES

1. MR HURD WISHES TO TRAVEL OUT WITH THE DEFENCE SALES TEAM ALTHOUGH HE ACCEPTS THAT HE MAY BECOME INVOLVED IN DETAILED TECHNICAL DISCUSSION.
2. YOU SHOULD AIM TO SEE KHALIFA IMMEDIATELY ON HIS RETURN (ROBERTS SUGGESTS AT THE AIRPORT), GIVE HIM A COPY OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE, AND SAY TO HIM THAT HM AMBASSADOR IS RETURNING ON INSTRUCTIONS TO ABU DHABI ON 30 DECEMBER AND WISHES TO DISCUSS HAWK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH HIM THEREAFTER, AND THAT MR HURD AND A DEFENCE SALES TEAM WISH TO VISIT ABU DHABI AT THE EARLIEST DATE CONVENIENT TO KHALIFA TO DISCUSS THE PROJECT IN DETAIL. YOU SHOULD EXTRACT A PROMISE THAT NO IRREVOCABLE ACTION ON HAWK WOULD BE TAKEN BEFORE MR HURD'S VISIT. MR HURD WILL BE READY TO TRAVEL FROM 31 DECEMBER AND HOPES THAT YOU CAN STEER SHEIKH KHALIFA TOWARDS AGREEING TO RECEIVE HIM ON 1 JANUARY. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES HERE IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE HELPFUL TO HAVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM KHALIFA ABOUT THE TIMING OF MR HURD'S VISIT.
3. WE WILL AIM TO FIELD A TECHNICAL TEAM WELL ABLE TO ANSWER ANY CRITICISMS OF THE HAWK WHICH THE ABU DHABI EXPERTS MAY HAVE. MOD ARE LOOKING INTO WHAT ADDITIONAL MATERIAL THEY HAVE ABOUT THE DEFICIENCIES OF ALPHA-JET WHICH THEY WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO KHALIFA'S TEAM. BUT MR HURD WILL ALSO WISH TO TALK ABOUT TRAINING, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT IF ABU DHABI REQUIREMENTS GO BEYOND WHAT WAS OUTLINED IN MY TELNO 74 PARA 2, WE ARE

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PREPARED TO CONSIDER THEM SYMPATHETICALLY.

4. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION ONLY AT THIS STAGE, MR HURD WOULD LIKE IF POSSIBLE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF HIS VISIT TO THE UAE BRIEFLY TO VISIT DUBAI. HE WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON SHAIKH RASHID IF HE IS AVAILABLE, AND IF TIME PERMITTED, ON THE RULER OF SHARJAH.

5. ON RECEIPT FROM YOU OF A FIRM DATE FOR MR HURD'S VISIT NEWS DEPT WILL ANNOUNCE THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE IS PAYING A BRIEF VISIT TO THE EMIRATES IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE CURRENT DIALOGUE WITH THEM ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY MATTERS, AS PART OF A SERIES OF REGULAR CONTACTS WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE HAD WITH THE UAE AUTHORITIES.

6. ROBERTS IS RETURNING TO ABU DHABI ON 30 DECEMBER BY GF002.
CARRINGTON

LIMITED
MED
DEF D
NEWS D
PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR HURD
PS/PUS
SIR J GRAHAM
SIR A ACLAND
MR J MOBERLY

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