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OF 131530Z AUGUST 90

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INFO IMMEDIATE ANKARA, ISLAMABAD, JAKARTA, MODUK

SIC AAA/I9M

IRAQ/KUWAIT

SUMMARY

1. AMERICAN ACCOUNT OF KELLY VISIT. AMERICANS AND SAUDIS AGREE ON NEED FOR EXILED KUWAIT LEADERSHIP TO TAKE A HIGHER PROFILE. PROBABLE USE OF FROZEN KUWAITI FUNDS TO ASSIST TURKEY. SAUDIS SEEKING MILITARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NON-ARAB ISLAMIC STATES.

DETAIL

2. US DCM HAS GIVEN US AN ACCOUNT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE KELLY'S VISIT HERE ON 11/12 AUGUST. DUNFORD SAID THAT, AS WE WOULD KNOW, KELLY HAD SUCCESSFULLY VENTRILOQUIZED THE REQUIRED LETTER TO BUSH FROM SHAIK JABER ABOUT ENFORCEMENT MEASURES. THE AMERICANS HAD BEEN IN A HURRY, AND HAD OVERRIDDEN KUWAITI MISGIVINGS ABOUT ISSUING THE AMIR'S LETTER TO BUSH BEFORE CONTACT WAS MADE WITH OTHER STATES. THEY HAD HOWEVER PRESSED THE KUWAITIS TO ISSUE SUCH LETTERS TO OTHER COUNTRIES SOON, INCLUDING THE 5 PERMANENT MEMBERS, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, EGYPT AND MOROCCO (BUT NOT IRAN). THE KUWAITIS HAD SEPARATELY INFORMED THE AMERICANS OF THEIR INTENTION OF ISSUING A PUBLIC STATEMENT CALLING ON ALL STATES TO TAKE STEPS, MILITARY AND OTHER, TO LIBERATE KUWAIT (C/F MY TELNO 636).

3. DUNFORD SAID THE AMERICANS WERE CONCERNED AT SADDAM'S SUCCESS IN PUTTING HIS MESSAGE ACROSS TO THE ARAB WORLD. THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A PR COUNTER, AND KELLY HAD URGED SHEIK JABER AND THE KUWAITI LEADERSHIP TO TAKE A HIGH PROFILE WORLDWIDE, THEREBY GIVING THE LIE TO THE IDEA THAT THIS WAS PRIMARILY A QUARREL BETWEEN THE US AND IRAQ (THIS THINKING PRESUMABLY UNDERLINES SHAIKL SABAHAST AHMED'S CURRENT TOUR TO LONDON AND OTHER CAPITALS).

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4. DUNFORD SAID THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF FROZEN KUWAITI ASSETS DURING KELLY'S VISIT. THE KUWAITIS WERE PREPARED TO AGREE THAT FROZEN KUWAITI MONEY SHOULD BE USED TO ASSIST TURKEY, AND THE US AGREED THAT KUWAITI MONEY PREVIOUSLY DESTINED FOR EGYPT TO ASSIST WITH FOOD PURCHASES SHOULD BE RELEASED. DUNFORD DID NOT MENTION JORDAN.

5. DUNFORD SAID THAT , AT KELLY'S MEETING WITH PRINCE SAUD, THE LATTER HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE SAUDIS SHARED THE US VIEW ON THE NEED FOR A HIGHER KUWAITI PROFILE. SAUD TALKED OF THE DESIRABILITY OF COLLECTING AND RE-EQUIPPING KUWAITI REGULAR SOLDIERS WHO HAD FLED TO SAUDI ARABIA. THE US AMBASSADOR HAD INTERJECTED THAT THIS WOULD BE ALRIGHT SO LONG AS THE KUWAITIS WERE NOT STATIONED TOO NEAR THE BORDER, WHERE THEY MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO PROVOCATIVE ACTION, WHICH THE US GOVERNMENT WANTED TO AVOID. SAUD HAD GIVEN NO INDICATION THAT FURTHER SERIOUS ARAB DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES WERE IN PROSPECT POST-CAIRO. HE SAID THAT THE SAUDIS WOULD BE SEEKING A MILITARY CONTRIBUTION FROM NON-ARAB MUSLIM STATES, AND MENTIONED INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA BY NAME (WE HAVE SEPARATELY PICKED UP ON UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT THE PAKISTANIS HAVE OFFERED TROOPS).

MUNRO

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