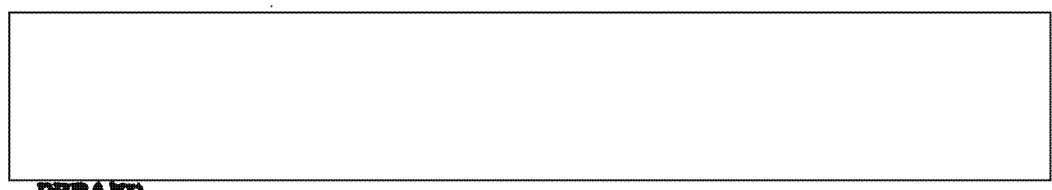


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BOOK MESSAGE AS BELOW

ROUTINE

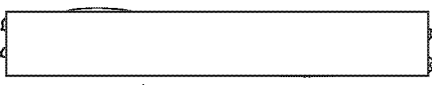
CITE OR 89921



PERIOD

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(NOFORN IN SLANTS. REMAINING INFO



1. TURKEY: THE TWO-YEAR-OLD POLITICAL CRISIS CONTINUES. SINCE THE JUSTICE PARTY (JP) ADMITTED LAST WEEK THAT IT COULD NOT FORM A GOVERNMENT, PRIME MINISTER INONU HAS ACCEPTED A MANDATE TO DO SO. INONU IS STILL EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY IN DRAWING TOGETHER A NEW COALITION. HOWEVER, HIS CHANCES HAVE BEEN IMPROVED BY THE JP'S OPEN FAILURE, THE POLITICIANS' HEAR THAT THE MILITARY MAY INTERVENE IF THE CRISIS IS PROLONGED MUCH FURTHER, AND THE SCARCITY OF OTHER CANDIDATES.

(CONF)

2. AFGHANISTAN; //CONSERVATIVE FORMER PRIME MINISTER PRINCE DAUD SEEMS TO BE REASSERTING HIS INFLUENCE. A POLITICAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN DAUD AND KING ZAHIR SHAH MAY BE DEVELOPING OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS FOR A MORE LIBERAL CONSTITUTION. SHOULD THE KING YIELD TO DAUD'S PRESSURES AND GIVE HIM AN IMPORTANT VOICE IN REVISING THE NEW

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

**SECRET**

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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TO :  
FROM : DIRECTOR  
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-PAGE TWO-

DRAFT CONSTITUTION, TEMPOSITIVE OF PRIME MINISTER WELUP AND OTHER  
REFORM-MINDED, PRO-WESTERN GOVERNMENT MEMBERS WOULD PROBABLY BECOME  
UNVIABLE.//

3. SAUDI ARABIA: THE LONG-SUSPENDING DISPUTE BETWEEN KING SAUD  
AND CROWN PRINCE FAYDAL MAY BE REOPENING A CRISIS. ROYAL GUARD ELEMENTS  
ON 16 DECEMBER WERE REPORTEDLY KINGING SAUD'S OBEDIENCE IN RIYADH AND THERE  
WAS EVIDENCE THAT AN IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE SAUDI ROYAL FAMILY WAS  
IN PROGRESS AT THE PALACE OF THE CROWN PRINCE. MOST IMPORTANT MEMBERS  
OF THE ROYAL FAMILY ARE BELIEVED LOYAL TO FAYDAL; HOWEVER, IT IS NOT  
CLEAR HOW THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE SAUDI ARMY WOULD REACT IN THE  
EVENT OF AN OPEN SAUDI-FAYDAL SPLIT. (CONF)

KID OF MESSAGE

*James W. Featherstone*  
JAMES W. FEATHERSTONE  
DELEGATE IN CHARGE

COORDINATING OFFICER

~~SECRET~~

*Malcolm H. ...*  
MALCOLM H. ...  
COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICER

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