

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG UNIT: JAMES SCHEIDT  
EXT: OCT 7582  
DATE: 20 DEC 63

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TO: BOOK MESSAGE AS BELOW  
FROM: DIRECTOR  
CONF: 0014  
INFO: CA 2, CA/PEG, CA/PROP, FI/INT 2, IW, AF 4, EE 4, WE 4, NE 4, WH 4, DD/1 2, HR/OPS, CGS, VR

20 DEC 63 42z

DEPARTMENT

ROUTINE

TO: ROUTINE INFO CITE DIR **90548**

BRLN [ ] BONN [ ]  
[ ]  
[ ]

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF  
(INFOBORN IN SLANTS, REMAINING INFO [ ])

1. SAUDI ARABIA: //THE DISPUTES BETWEEN KING SAUD AND CROWN PRINCE FAYSAL IS NOT YET RESOLVED, BUT FAYSAL APPEARS TO BE WORKING OUT THE CRISIS. THE DISPUTE CENTERS AROUND KING SAUD'S ATTEMPT TO REASSERT PERSONAL CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HIS BROTHERS FORCED HIM TO TURN OVER TO FAYSAL A YEAR AGO. THE PRIMARY ISSUE HAS BEEN VARIOUSLY REPORTED TO BE THE NEW BUDGET, WHICH REDUCES MONEY ALLOCATED TO THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND FAYSAL'S REFUSAL TO GIVE CABINET POSTS TO TWO OF SAUD'S SONS.//

//THE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES BEGAN EARLIER THIS MONTH WHEN SAUD WROTE FAYSAL A LETTER WHICH IN EFFECT REMOVED FAYSAL FROM HIS POST AS PRIME MINISTER. FAYSAL REFUSED TO STEP DOWN APPARENTLY WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF HIS AND THE KING'S BROTHERS, WHO ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.//

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS  
**SECRET**

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AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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ROUTINE

TO INFO -PAGE TWO- CITE OR 00548

FARIS APPEARS MOST ANXIOUS TO AVOID LEaving BEHIND THE  
 KING SINCE THIS COULD FURTHER DAMAGE THE REPUTATION OF THE MONARCHY.  
 HE HAS REPEATEDLY REJECTED THE SUGGESTION OF ~~some~~ ~~others~~ ~~that~~  
 THE KING BE ASSASSINATED OR FORCED TO RESIGN. ~~He~~ ~~has~~ ~~been~~  
 SAID CAUSED THE ROYAL GUARD TO SURROUND HIS PALACE, ~~because~~  
 BECAUSE HE FEARED HIS BROTHERS MIGHT TRY TO KILL HIM.

2. ~~THE~~ REPUBLICAN REGIME CONTINUES TO BE MARKED WITH  
 DISSENSION. LAST WEEK THE PRESIDENTIAL AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
 RESIGNED, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE OF "GENERAL DISSENT" OVER ~~the~~  
 INTERFERENCE. PRESIDENT SALLAL IS STILL IN CHARGE AND ~~the~~  
 VICE PRESIDENT AL-AMRI IS RUNNING THE COUNTRY.

END OF MESSAGE

*James W. [Signature]*  
CLASS. & EXTENDED BY [Signature]

**SECRET**

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*Walter R. [Signature]*  
OFFICE