

JAMES MURPHY

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PERAND

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(NOFORN IN SLANTS. REMAINING INFO RELEASABLE TO "KISIDON".)

1. TURKEY: THE TWO-DECADE 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

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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ROUTING

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-PAGE TWO-

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

9. SAUDI ARABIA: THE LONG-SUSPENDING DISPUTE BETWEEN KING SAUD  
AND CROWN PRINCE FAYEAL MAY BE REACHING A CLIMAX. ROYAL GUARD ELEMENTS  
ON 16 DECEMBER WERE REPORTEDLY KINGING SAUD'S SUGGEST 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 FAYEAL; HOWEVER, IT IS NOT  
CLEAR HOW THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE SAUDI ARMY WOULD REACT IN THE  
EVENT OF AN OPEN SAUDI-FAYEAL SPLIT. (CONF)

END OF MESSAGE

JAMES W. FEATHERSTONE

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MAJEC H. DUNN, JR.

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