

SECRET

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION SS-30

INTELWIRE.comINFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 /031 W
-----119438 231144Z /17/50SZ O 211430Z NOV 79
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 8032
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE
USLO RIYADH NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 8043

EXDIS DECAPTIONED

FOR SAUDNERS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 11/21/99 (WEST JOHN C) OR-M
TAGS: ASEC PINR SA
SUBJ: (S) KHOMEINI STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA

REF: STATE 302084

1. SECRET ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I TALKED TO PRINCE BANDAR BIN SULTAN AND TOLD HIM OF THE
STATEMENT BY KHOMEINI AND THE CONCERN THAT WE HAD THAT THIS
STATEMENT PROBABLY PROVOKED THE ATTACK ON ISLAMABAD AND COULD
WELL PROVOKE SIMILAR ATTACKS ON OTHER AMERICAN EMBASSIES.
FOR THAT REASON IT WAS ESSENTIAL AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME
TO HAVE A STATEMENT FROM SAG ABSOLVING THE US FROM ANY RESPONSIBI-
LITY FOR THE MECCA INCIDENT.3. BANDAR REPLIED THAT HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MECCA;
THAT AN ARMORED VEHICLE WAS ALREADY IN THE MOSQUE AND THE
INVADERS WERER SURROUNDED. SAG WANTED TO AVOID ANY DAMAGE
TO THE FACILITY AND ANY INJURY TO THE PILGRIMS, BUT THAT THOSE
RESPONSIBLE WOULD BE CAPTURED VERY SHORTLY, PROBABLY WTHIN TWO
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HOURS. HE STATED THAT A FULL STATEMENT OF THE FACTS WOULD BE
MADE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SPECIFICALLY THAT NO FOREIGN POWER
HAD ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE SEIZURE.UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 08 NOV 2006 200602795

UNCLASSIFIED

4. I THANKED HIM AND HE REASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD SEE THAT

THIS PART OF THE STATEMENT WAS INCLUDED.

5. SUBSEQUENTLY BANDAR CALLED ME BACK AND STATED THAT HE HAD TALKED TO PRINCE SULTAN, IMPRESSING UPON HIM THE URGENCY OF AN IMMEDIATE DENIAL OF THE KHOMEINI STATEMENT. SULTAN REPLIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT UNTIL THE MATTER WAS CONCLUDED WHICH MIGHT NOT BE FORD SEVERAL HOURS. HOWEVER, SULTAN SUGGESTED THAT, IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY OF THE MATTER, THAT USG MIGHT ISSUE AN OFFICIAL DENIAL OF THE KHOMEINI STATEMENT WHICH, IN TURN, WOULD BE PUBLISHED HERE AND AFFIRMED WITHOUT DELAY BY THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT.

6. SPECIAL COUNSELOR SABBAGH IN MEANTIME HAS DISCUSSED MATTER WITH DR YAMANI, MINISTER OF INFORMATION, IMPRESSING UPON HIM THE URGENCY OF A COMPLETE AND EFFECTIVE DENIAL OF THE KHOMEINI STATEMENT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. WEST

NOTE: STADIS DELETED AND ADDING EXDIS PER JIDDA (DRAFTER)

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDEDE PER MR. DAVID JOHNSON, S/S-O.

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