



~~SECRET~~

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

18 SEP 1976

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

I-24276176

21 SEP 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Visit of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud bin Faisal
-- INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

(U) Prince Saud has come to the United States to attend the UN General Assembly and to make speaking appearances in Houston and St. Louis. He arrived Wednesday, 15 September. His schedule includes:

- 16 Sept - 0900 Meeting with House International Relations Committee,
- 17 Sept - 1100 Meeting with President Ford,
- 1300 Working lunch with Deputy Secretary of State Robinson,
- 20 Sept - 1230 Luncheon with Senate Foreign Relations Committee members,
- 2000 Dinner at Saudi Embassy,
- 22 Sept - - Depart Washington for Houston,
- 24 Sept - - St. Louis,
- 25 Sept - - UNGA, New York.

(U) I understand that you and Deputy Secretary Clements have accepted invitations from the Saudi Arabian Ambassador for the dinner in honor of Prince Saud on Monday evening, 20 October. The Saudi Embassy has informed us that the following additional guests have accepted invitations: Secretary Simon, Deputy Secretary Robinson, Under Secretary Habib, Assistant Secretary Atherton, Director George Bush, Mr. Scowcroft, Shaikh Abdallah Alireza (a nephew of the Ambassador), Ambassador Hassan Shawwaf (Office Director for Prince Saud), Mr. Madani (First Secretary in the Saudi Embassy), and wives.

(C) The Department of State advises that Prince Saud will be primarily concerned about:

- the situation in Lebanon,
- an Arab-Israeli peace settlement,
- anti-boycott legislation aimed at Saudi Arabia, and
- Congressional sentiment against arms sales.

Prince Saud bin Faisal

091116

20 Sep 76

~~Classified by ASD:ISA
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. EXEMPTION CATEGORY 3
DECLASSIFY ON Indefinite~~

~~SECRET~~



2720

SEC DEF GCHS HQ WASH DC

~~SECRET~~

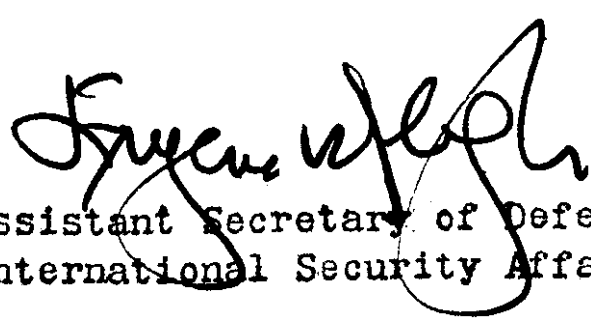
2

~~(S)~~ In case Prince Saud raises the issue of arms sales, the following background is provided for your information:

- There are currently nine sales cases for Saudi Arabia undergoing Congressional review. Resolutions have been introduced in both Houses seeking to block these sales. Hearings have been called in both the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House International Relations Committee on 21 September to review these sales cases. The most controversial items include:
 - 850 AIM-9J Sidewinder air-to-air missiles (in response to a Saudi request to buy 4,468 that they later reduced to 2,000).
 - 650 MAVERICK air-to-ground missiles (in response to a Saudi request to buy 1,500 more in addition to the first 1,000 we offered them earlier this year).
 - 50 TOW anti-tank missile launchers and 1,000 missiles.
- The 30-day Congressional review period expires at the end of this month.
- A detailed survey was conducted by DOD of Saudi defense requirements in 1974, and we have continued to discuss their needs with them since.
- DOD representatives have continuously advised the Saudis to limit their arms acquisitions to realistic requirements that can be absorbed within their manpower limitations.
- DOD did support their current requests as justified and reasonable.
- The decisions to reduce the quantities of munitions offered below the amounts requested were made by the Department of State and the White House after consultations with Congressional leaders.

(U) A copy of the current biographical data on Prince Saud is attached at Tab A.

Atch - a/s


Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

Prepared by Colonel Wm A. Fifer, USA
NESAs Region, ISA
x78088



~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAUDI ARABIA

SA'UD ibn Faysal Al Sa'ud

Minister of Foreign
Affairs



US-educated Prince Sa'ud ibn Faysal, nephew of King Khalid and the most able of the late King Faysal's sons, succeeded King Khalid as Minister of Foreign Affairs on 13 October 1975. He had previously served as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs since 29 March 1975, and, in effect, he ran the day-to-day affairs of the Ministry during that period. Prince Sa'ud (pronounced sahOOD) spent the first part of his government career in the Ministry of Petroleum Wealth (1966-71) and has served on delegations to meetings of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) since early 1966. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Petromin, the state-owned oil company, since June 1966 and a member of the board of the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) since October 1971. He has been secretary general of the Supreme Petroleum Council since its formation in April 1973. The Prince led his country's delegations to UN General Assembly sessions in 1975 and 1976. He has visited the United States many times.

US officials were enthusiastic about Prince Sa'ud's appointment as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Capable and intelligent, he has always been readily accessible to US oil company and government officials; his family status and his position now provide US officials with better routine access to decisionmaking levels of the Saudi Government. Serving under a powerful Deputy Prime Minister (his uncle Prince Fahd), the Prince is an articulate spokesman for his government's foreign policy; he takes a moderate, reasoned approach in discussions.

US officials anticipated in 1975 that Prince Sa'ud's youth and ability would rejuvenate and modernize



~~Classified by 004050
Exempt from automatic
declassification schedule of 11552
Exemption category 5B (1) (2) (3)~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CR M 76-14087

the badly led Foreign Ministry. He has attempted to upgrade the Foreign Service by his appointment of capable men to **key** ambassadorial positions. In April 1975 he undertook a project to establish a library, files and a reference system for his Ministry.

At the Conference Table

The various US officials who have met with Prince Sa'ud for discussions agree' about his personal characteristics and professional style. Polished and sophisticated, he has a slow, **deliberate** manner of speech. He appears cultivated and dignified; studied casualness masks an underlying physical tension. A reflection of the late King Faysal in face and build, the Prince emulates his father in controlled speech and mannerisms.

Prince Sa'ud is competent to discuss international relations, petroleum, finance and energy. He can talk about difficult subjects impersonally without being abrasive or offending listeners by his attitudes. He is not assertive, but he expresses his positions with firmness and conviction. He does not stress polemics, is not argumentative and does not become bogged down by details. Prince **Sa'ud can be** evasive. He is a good **listener and welcomes** the views of **others** during discussions. An exponent of his country's policies, he does not press his personal ideas, but he is known to have strong opinions regarding the rights of Palestinians and Israeli occupation of contested lands. He is sensitive about the tendency **of** the Western press to portray Arabs in pejorative terms.

Early Life and Career

Prince Sa'ud ibn Faysal Al Sa'ud, the fourth son of the late King Faysal, was born circa 1940 in Ta'if, near Mecca. He attended the Hun School in New Jersey and in 1965 graduated from Princeton University with a B.A. degree in economics and political economy.

In April 1966 Prince Sa'ud was named a delegate to an OPEC meeting in Vienna. Afterward he joined the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth as an economic adviser. During a petroleum **conference** in Jidda in September 1966 he first came to the attention of Aramco officials, who assessed him as: a man



with a future. He held the position of deputy governor for planning in Petromin (equal in rank to an under secretary in a Ministry) from March 1970 until his appointment as Deputy Minister for Petroleum Affairs in July 1971. In the latter position he was indolent and frequently absent from his office, but US officials attribute this to the frustrations of working in the shadow of the more colorful and dynamic Petroleum Minister, **Ahmad Zaki Yamani**. Prince Sa'ud remained in this post until his appointment as Minister of State for 'Foreign Affairs in March 1975.

Personal Data

Throuahout his career Prince Sa'ud has traveled extensively to attend meetings on petroleum and international relations. In connection with his duties he has visited most of the countries of the Near East and Europe. One high-level US official claims that his schedule of international travel "matches any diplomatic **courier's**."

The Prince lives modestly and has little ardor for the excessive opulence 'that characterizes the lives of 'many members of the royal **family**. In August 1964 he married Jawhara, a granddaughter of the late King Sa'ud. The couple has at **least one daughter**. The Prince speaks **excellent** English.

13 September 1976

Comments and questions on this report may be directed to Bert Engelhardt, DDI/CRS, Code 143, ext. 4172.

