

COMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: VR 453
Rec'd: November 17, 1953
4:25 a.m.

FROM: Jidda

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 233, November 16, 2 p.m.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 233; POUCHED DHAHRAN.

1. King has so far received delegations from Yemen, Egypt, Bahrein, Lebanon and Jordan and delegations from remaining Arab States will probably be forthcoming. According British, French, Italian Missions here their respective governments have no (repeat no) present plans send delegation.

2. There are at present no Saudi plans for special enthronement ceremony.

3. Unless it is decided hold coronation ceremony and unless other non-Arab States send special delegation, Embassy considers sending special US representative unnecessary.

4. Although realize Vice President Nixon's schedule already very full, strongly recommend Department consider advisability requesting him pass through Saudi Arabia on his return US congratulate King Saud on behalf President as such action at beginning reign new King would, in Embassy's opinion, have lasting and beneficial effect Saudi-American relations. As Department aware, Saudis feel they have special relationship with US because Bahran Airfield and Aramco and brief visit Vice President to Saudi Arabia would be considered by them as recognition by US of this special relationship. According Department's Circular USITO 133 November 13, Vice President scheduled visit Iran and if he does not (repeat not) visit Saudi Arabia, Saudis would ask, as they have in past, if US attaches more importance its relations Iran than Saudi Arabia. While preferable for Vice President spend one day in Saudi Arabia, even passing visit of few hours to Riyadh, where King likely be during December, would help immeasurably.

Hope decision will be forthcoming soon as impact would be strengthened if announcement of visit to Saudis could be made within next few days.

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JONES

By _____, NARS Date _____

MAM: SJM/15

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