

SPECIAL HANDLING
GROUP

TOP SECRET

COPY NUMBER 5

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JCS MESSAGE CENTER

ZYUW RUEKJCS1150 0662015

PRIORITY
P 062015Z MAR 84
FM SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
TO AMEMB JIDDA SA
INFO USLO RIYADH SA
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//J5//

CHUSMTH RIYADH SA
JCS WASHINGTON DC//J5//

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: AUG 2 2013

~~TOP SECRET~~
SUBJ: SAG REQUEST FOR I-CHAPARRAL (MIM-72C)
1. DURING THE JAN VISIT BY LTG THOMSON, DIRECTOR, PLANS AND POLICY, JOINT STAFF, SAUDI ARABIA, DEF MIN SULTAN MADE ANOTHER REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF THE I-CHAPARRAL MIM-72C TO THE SAG. WE HAVE REVIEWED ONCE MORE THE PROS AND CONS OF SUCH A RELEASE AND CONCLUDED THAT IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE USG TO CHANGE THIS POLICY.
2. REQUEST THAT YOU DELIVER AT YOUR CONVENIENCE TO DEF MIN SULTAN THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECDEF WEINBERGER:
HRH PRINCE SULTAN BIN ABDUL AZIZ
SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND AVIATION AND INSPECTOR GENERAL
RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA
YOUR HIGHNESS:

THANK YOU FOR THE COURTESIES EXTENDED TO LTG THOMSON DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND POLICY, JOINT STAFF, AND MG TIXIER, OF MY OFFICE DURING THEIR RECENT VISIT. THE US GOVERNMENT (USG) GREATLY APPRECIATES THE APPROVAL GRANTED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR THE USE OF SAUDI AIRSPACE TO CONDUCT A US-ONLY AERIAL REFUELING EXERCISE INVOLVING ELF-1 (SAUDI AWACS SUPPORT), TANKER ASSETS (KC-135), AND US SEVENTH FLEET CARRIER AIR ASSETS DEPLOYED TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. THAT EXERCISE HAS ENHANCED THE US ABILITY TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR AIR DEFENSE IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

LTG THOMSON RELAYED YOUR REQUEST THAT THE USG RECONSIDER ITS DECISION ON THE SALE OF THE IMPROVED-CHAPARRAL (MIM-72C) TO PERMIT THE PURCHASE OF AT LEAST ONE BATTERY FOR THE DEFENSE OF DHAHRAN. AS YOU KNOW, THE USG CURRENTLY HAS NOT OFFERED THE MIM-72C SYSTEM TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY, AND WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT NO CHANGE IN THIS POLICY IS PLANNED FOR NOW. SHOULD THE POLICY EVER CHANGE, WE WILL, OF COURSE, ADVISE YOU. MEANWHILE WE ARE, HOWEVER, OFFERING THE IMPROVED CHAPARRAL (MIM-72F). I BELIEVE THIS SYSTEM WOULD MORE THAN SATISFY YOUR REQUIREMENTS. IT REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT OVER THE BASIC CHAPARRAL AND SHOULD FULLY SATISFY YOUR NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE EQUIPMENT.

THE US CONTINGENCY PLANNING GROUP ASSIGNED TO THE US MILITARY TRAINING MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE FULL DHAHRAN AIR DEFENSE WITH YOUR MILITARY PLANNERS. CONTINGENCY AUGMENTATION OF THE AIR DEFENSE CAPABILITY FOR DHAHRAN MAY BE SATISFIED USING ONE OF SEVERAL SYSTEMS. WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN FOR THE VULNERABILITY OF THE DHAHRAN AREA AND ITS FACILITIES AND CERTAINLY WISH TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU TO DO EVERY THING WE CAN TO HELP YOU ENSURE ITS SECURITY FROM ATTACK FROM ANY QUARTERS.

(U) PLEASE BE ASSURED OF MY CONTINUED HIGH ESTEEM.
SINCERELY, CASPAR W. WEINBERGER
0000 UNDR BT

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IF FURTHER DISTR. REQUIRED CONTACT JCS/IC

ACTION U.S. (10)
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