

CONFIDENTIAL

ms

GR 200

CONFIDENTIAL

FM AMMAN 040730Z MAR 82

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 093 OF 03 MARCH

INFO MODUK (DI4), BAGHDAD, DAMASCUS, TEHRAN, TEL AVIV, WASHINGTON.

SAVING TO (FOR INFO) OTHER MIDDLE EAST POSTS.

JORDAN/IRAQ

1. IT WAS ANNOUNCED ON 2 MARCH ON JORDANIAN TELEVISION THAT THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF THE YARMOUK FORCE LEFT FOR IRAQ ON 1 MARCH. IN A FAREWELL SPEECH IN THE PRESENCE OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE ENTIRE FORCE, KING HUSSEIN SAID HE HOPED TO JOIN THE VOLUNTEERS ON THE BATTLEFIELD VERY SHORTLY. NO INFORMATION WAS GIVEN ABOUT THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIRST CONTINGENT. BUT WE HAVE A REPORT FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE THAT AROUND 200 MEN, ORGANISED AS TWO FORMED INFANTRY COMPANIES AND CARRYING PERSONAL WEAPONS AND PACKS, WERE INVOLVED IN WHAT SEEMED TO BE A DRESS REHEARSAL THE PREVIOUS EVENING.
2. SINCE KING HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO ONE OF THE FORCE'S TRAINING CAMPS ON 9 FEBRUARY (CHARLTON'S TELELETTER OF 11 FEBRUARY REFERS), ALL REQUESTS FROM FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AND TV STATIONS TO VISIT THE TRAINING CAMPS HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN AND LITTLE HAS APPEARED ABOUT THE FORCE IN THE JORDANIAN PRESS. FEELINGS ABOUT THE DESPATCH OF VOLUNTEERS REMAIN MIXED. HOWEVER MESSAGES OF SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FORCE, MANY OF THEM OFFICIALLY PROMPTED, CONTINUE TO FLOW IN.

FCO PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

URWICK

[THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT ADVANCED]  
[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

IRAQ/IRAN STANDARD

MED	MAED
NENAD	ES & SD
NAD	TRED
UND	ERD
EESD	ESID
ECD	CONS D
RID	CONS EM UNIT
WED	CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

IRAQ/IRAN

CONFIDENTIAL