

CONFIDENTIAL

(1)

PRIME MINISTER

ANTI-RIOT TRAINING FOR THE
SAUDI NATIONAL GUARD

The Foreign Secretary and the Defence Secretary are agreed that it would be right to accede to a Saudi request for further riot training for their National Guard. This would be an exception to our normal policy on riot control training for foreign forces. ^{Army}

The Northern Ireland Secretary disagrees. He is worried that providing training for the Saudi National Guard would leave us vulnerable to the charge that we were profiting from the riot control techniques learned in Northern Ireland.

Would you like to express a view at this stage, or - if the Northern Ireland Secretary maintains his view - allow the matter to come forward for collective discussion at OD?

DMS

Yes MS

27 January 1984

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