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ACTION NEA-16

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 FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2087
 AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
 INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
 AMEMBASSY CAIRO
 AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
 AMEMBASSY JIDDA
 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
 AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
 USMISSION GENEVA
 SECDEF WASHDC

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LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR PICKERING

GENEVA FOR NEPC DEL

F.O. 11652: N/A
 TAGS: PFOR, JU, IS, XF
 SUBJECT: STATEMENT OF JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER UPON
 DEPARTING FOR WASHINGTON

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION, BASED ON MONITORING OF
 JORDAN RADIO BROADCAST, OF PRIME MINISTER ZAYD RIFAI'S DEPARTURE
 STATEMENT AT AMMAN AIRPORT AUGUST 3 AS HE BEGAN VISIT TO
 WASHINGTON.

2. QUOTE RIFAI: THE PURPOSE OF MY VISIT TO WASHINGTON IS TO

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EXAMINE THE PROSPECTS FOR BRINGING ABOUT A DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES ON THE JORDAN-ISRAELI FRONT, WHICH THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS TO BE FUNDAMENTAL, SINCE IT REPRESENTS A PLAN FOR CARRYING OUT A FULL WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IF IT APPEARS TO BE FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH DR. HENRY KISSINGER THAT A DISENGAGEMENT OF (JORDAN-ISRAELI) FORCES WILL BE PUT INTO EFFECT, WE SHALL CONSIDER DISENGAGEMENT ON THE EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, AND WE CAN PROCEED, WITH EGYPT AND SYRIA AND THE PLO, TO THE FORTHCOMING PHASE IN GENEVA. BUT IF I SEE THAT IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO BRING ABOUT THIS RESULT DUE TO AN ISRAELI REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW, THEN, AS HIS MAJESTY THE KING HAS SAID, THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO JUSTIFY PARTICIPATING IN THE GENEVA PEACE TALKS, AND JORDAN WILL ADOPT ITS POSITION ON THIS BASIS. AFTER MY TALKS WITH DR. KISSINGER, I SHALL REVIEW THE MATTER WITH HM THE KING, AFTER WHICH WE WILL INFORM THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT, SYRIA, AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF OUR ATTITUDE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. END QUOTE.

3. GDS SPOKESMAN SAID THAT RIFAT WILL CONFER WITH SECDEF SCHEFFER ON ASPECTS OF US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO JORDAN.
SUDARTH

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