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TELEGRAM NUMBER 132 OF 9 MARCH

REPEATED FOR INFORMATION DOT (FOR MR R WILLIAMS), MODUK (FOR DEFENCE SALES MR JEFFS), DOI (PS/MR JENKIN

MY TELS NOS 52 AND 94: VISIT OF FIRST DEPUTY PREMIER RAMADHAN.

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A NOTE FROM MFA STATING THAT THE 5/7 MAY PROPOSED DATE FOR RAMADHAN'S VISIT TO THE UK IS NOT (NOT) CONVENIENT BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS. THE MATTER WILL BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW AND PROPOSALS FOR A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE SUBMITTED LATER.

2. THIS IS SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTING SINCE IT MAY PUT THE VISIT BACK WELL INTO THE SECOND HALF OF THE YEAR. BUT IT IS SOMETHING, GIVEN IRAQI PREOCCUPATIONS, TO HAVE BEEN INFORMED BEFORE THE LAST MINUTE.

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