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FOREIGN RELATIONS

Prince Nayef leads delegation to Iraqi Neighbors' Meeting

Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz led Saudi Arabia's delegation to the 6th Iraqi Neighbors' Meeting held in Sharm Al-Sheikh, Egypt on October 14. Under the chairmanship of Egyptian Interior Minister Habib Al-Adli, the gathering brought together interior ministers from several Middle Eastern countries, as well as representatives from the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Arab League. Addressing the gathering, Prince Nayef stressed the importance of supporting Iraq's stabilization while not infringing upon its sovereignty. He also called upon Iraq's neighbors not to provide refuge or safe passage to terrorists.

After the meeting concluded, a communiqué was issued by the interior ministers of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iran, Bahrain, Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Egypt. The participants underscored the importance of respecting Iraq's integrity, independence and Arab and Islamic identity. They lauded recent security achievements, describing them as paving the way for political reforms and development, while condemning the recent series of deadly bombings. Finally, the ministers called for the activation of the security cooperation agreement signed between Iraq and its neighbors in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in 2006.

SAUDI ARABIA-U.S.

Ambassador speaks on Saudi-U.S. relations at NCUSAR Conference

Saudi Ambassador to the United States Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir participated in the Ambassador's Roundtable at the 18th Annual National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations (NCUSAR) Conference in Washington on October 15. The roundtable featured Ambassador Al-Jubeir, U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Brigadier General James B. Smith and former U.S. Ambassadors to the Kingdom Walter L. Cutler, Chas Freeman, Jr., James C. Oberwetter, and Robert Jordan.

Ambassador Al-Jubeir and Ambassador Smith emphasized the strength and importance of the Saudi-U.S. relationship, including in the areas of counterterrorism, regional security and trade and investment.

Ambassador Al-Jubeir noted the Arab Peace Initiative, the interfaith dialogue and the launching of the King Abdullah University for Science and Technology as examples of King Abdullah's commitment to peace, dialogue, understanding, and knowledge.

On October 15, Ambassador Al-Jubeir hosted a reception for all participants and guests at the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia.

TERRORISM

Security forces kill 2 terrorists, arrest a third

Saudi security forces killed two terrorists and arrested another at a checkpoint in Jazan Province on October 13. Interior Ministry spokesman Major General Mansour Al-Turki reported that policeman at the Al-Hamraa checkpoint became suspicious of a car carrying three people, two of whom were disguised as women. While waiting for a female inspector to arrive to search the suspects, the passengers opened fire on the policemen, killing one and slightly injuring another. The policemen returned fire, killing two of the assailants, and arrested the third. A search of the car turned up a large quantity of hand grenades, machine guns, and substances normally used to manufacture and prepare explosive materials.

