



Internal review
FOI 290/16/17
Item 2 Serial 1

Minister for Defence Industry
CC Minister for Defence

Pyne: MA16-003787

For Meeting/Event/Visit

Subject MDIND meeting with Saudi Ambassador and Defence Attaché

Recommendation That you note the contents of this brief.		Noted / Please discuss	
Signature: Christopher Pyne/...../2016		PS Version:/...../2016	
Contact Officer:	Emily Mettrick	Policy Officer, Middle East and Operational Policy	Ph: 22 [REDACTED]
Clearance Officer:	Stephen Moore	Assistant Secretary Global Interests	Ph: 22 [REDACTED]

Meeting/Event/Visit Arrangements:

Date: Tuesday, 6/12/2016
 Time: 15.15 – 16.00
 Venue: Commonwealth Parliamentary Office, 1 Bligh Street, Sydney
 Attendees: Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency, Nabil Mohammed Al Saleh and Saudi Arabian Defence Attaché to Australia, Captain Sami Al-Motairy
 Dept. Rep:
 Meeting Contact Executive Assistant of the Ambassador, 47F [REDACTED]

Key Points:

- Your office has advised you will meet with Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency, Nabil Mohammed Al Saleh and Saudi Arabian Defence Attaché to Australia, Captain Sami Al-Motairy. The Ambassador has requested this meeting in order to discuss your upcoming visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 18 December 2016.
- During your upcoming visit to Saudi Arabia, you have requested calls with a number of key officials, including the Crown Prince, Mohammed Bin Salman, in order to discuss potential opportunities for Australia's defence industry.
- s33(a)(iii) [REDACTED]
- The Ambassador's Executive Assistant has indicated that a media officer may be present at the meeting. As your visit is not yet public knowledge, Defence has advised your office that any media around this meeting should either be delayed until the conclusion of your visit, or that the purpose of the meeting be omitted at this point in time. Your office has been in contact with the Ambassador's office to shape this requirement.

Consultation: No.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Talking Points
- Attachment B: Biographical Details
- Attachment C: Background Information

Attachment A

Talking Points

- I am looking forward to my upcoming visit to Saudi Arabia to discuss potential opportunities for defence industry collaboration.
- During my visit to Saudi Arabia on 18 December 2016, I have requested calls with a number of Defence Industry officials including:
 - His Royal Highness, Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Deputy Crown Prince, Defence Minister and Chair of the Council for Economic and Development Affairs;
 - His Royal Highness, Prince Mutaib bin Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Minister of the National Guard; and
 - Doctor Dr Khaled al Faleh, Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources.

- s47G [Redacted]
- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]
- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

The Australia-Saudi Arabian Defence Relationship

- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]
- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]
- s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

Defence Industry and Innovation

- Australia's defence industry has a proven record of collaborating on and developing leading-edge innovation. Our defence industry is world-leading and competitive on the global market.

- In 2016, for the first time, Australia developed a Defence Industry Policy Statement as part of Defence White Paper.
 - The Statement highlights the Government’s commitment to supporting an internationally competitive and innovative defence industry sector.
 - The Australian Government is looking to maximise opportunities for competitive Australian businesses and build export potential.

If asked: Australian Government Support s47G [REDACTED]

- s47G [REDACTED] is currently pursuing opportunities s47G [REDACTED]
s33(a)(iii), s47G [REDACTED]

- s47G [REDACTED]

- s47G [REDACTED]

- I understand that you will make a decision based on the merits of different bids.

If asked: request for a bilateral Defence dialogue or Saudi Arabian ministerial visit to Australia

- s33(a)(iii) [REDACTED]

- s33(a)(iii) [REDACTED]

- Requests for engagement are managed by Australia’s Defence Attaché in Riyadh.

Drafted	Name	Appointment	DTG
<i>TPs drafted by</i>	<i>Emily Mettrick</i>	<i>Policy Officer - IPDIV</i>	

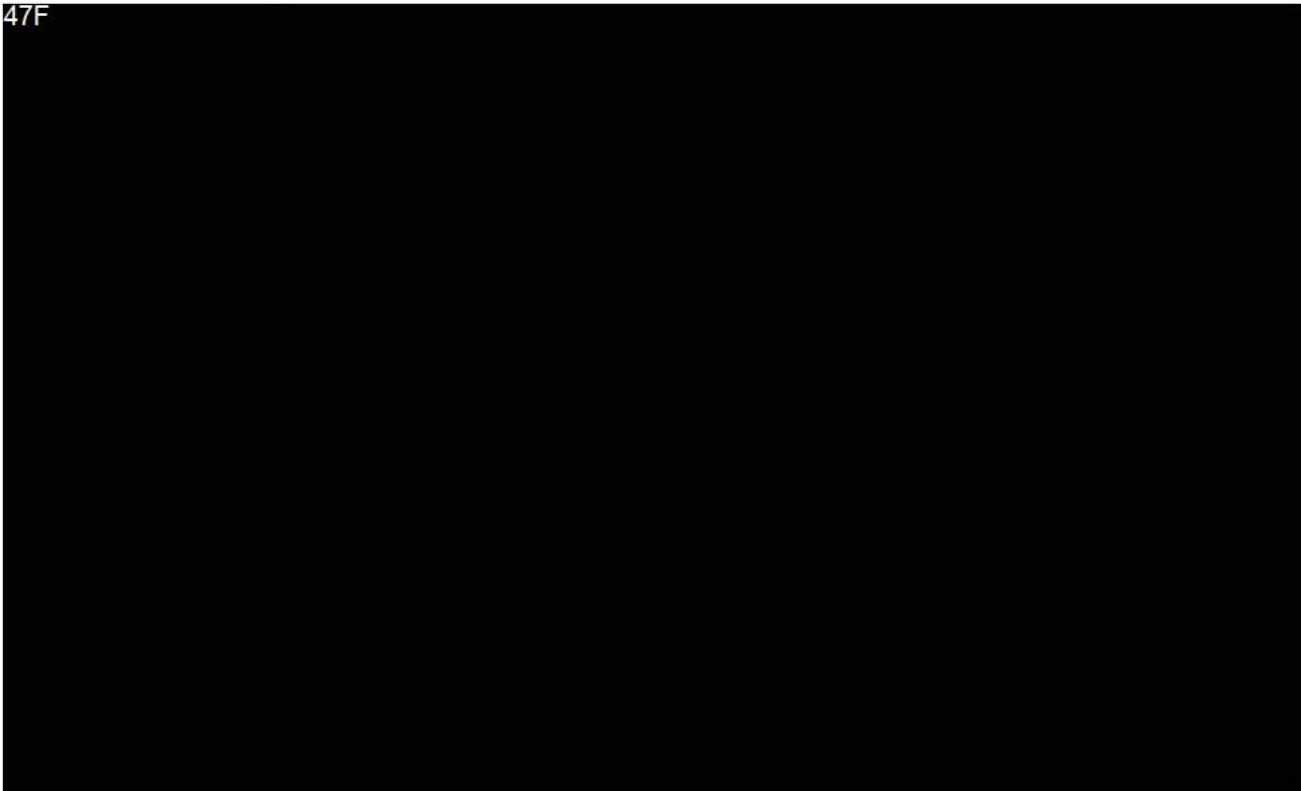
Clearance	Name	Appointment	DTG
<i>Strategic Policy and Intelligence</i>	<i>Stephen Moore</i>	<i>Assistant Secretary Global Interests</i>	
<i>MECC Division</i>	<i>N/A</i>		

Biographical Details

Nabil Mohammed Al Saleh



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Resume

SAMI AL-MOTAIRY, CAPTAIN, ROYAL SAUDI NAVAL FORCES

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Background Information

1. Ambassador Al Saleh requested this meeting with you in the context of your upcoming visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 18 December 2016. It is likely the Ambassador and accompanying Defence Attaché, Captain Al Motairy, will seek further details about the visit, its purpose and your scheduled calls. You may also wish seek the Ambassador's thoughts about opportunities for Australia's defence industry in Saudi Arabia.
 2. s33(a)(iii) [redacted] The defence relationship is s33(a)(iii) [redacted] and is coordinated through Australia's Defence Attaché in Riyadh. In December 2015, Saudi Arabia established its first resident Defence Attaché in Canberra, Captain Al-Motairy. s33(a)(iii) [redacted] s33(a)(iii) [redacted]
 3. Saudi Arabia is an influential regional power, s33(a)(iii) [redacted]
[redacted]
 4. Saudi Arabia has also contributed to coalition efforts against Daesh, and, in December 2015 announced a 34 member Islamic Military Alliance to combat terrorism. s33(a)(iii) [redacted]
[redacted]
- s47G [redacted] *Saudi Arabia*
5. s47G [redacted] Reports indicate the Royal Saudi Naval Force has been planning an expansion of its eastern fleet, with a budget estimated at about \$US20 billion (AU\$26 billion).
 6. s47G [redacted] been invited to talk to the Saudi Navy about the program and are seeking Australian Government support in its export endeavours. The Royal Saudi Naval Force has been planning an expansion of its eastern fleet, with a budget estimated at about \$US20 billion (AU\$26 billion).