

CONFIDENTIAL

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H.B.M. POLITICAL AGENCY,
 TRUCIAL STATES,
 DUBAI

19 November, 1968.

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(4/5)

The wording is very
 obscure & open to endless
 legal interpretations. But most would,
 I think, agree that the drafts stand firm
 on a general premise of Ras el Khaimah
 L.H. is at least some-thing.

The Tunbs

Mr. Right
 Mr. Beamish
 They really want all their
 20/12
 11/12
 Tunbs, Sultan

I enclose translations of the Iranian drafts referred to in
 Dubai telegram No. 502 to you, together with copies of the Arabic
 text for you and the FCO. I am very sorry that it was not possible
 to get these into last week's bag.

2. As you will have heard from the Political Resident, Saqr asked
 me on 9 November whether we would produce a compromise draft. The
 P.R. gave him no encouragement on this, and having looked at the
 texts I think that the two sides are still too far apart for a
 compromise to be easily achieved. Saqr said on 9 November that the
 only basis for Iranian use of the islands would be a lease.
 I suppose also that any British draft, however tactfully and
 diffidently offered and however hedged about with reservations,
 would immediately be stamped as a British proposal. As I understand
 it, we have no wish to take any such initiative in the matter.

(J. L. Bullard)

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