

Digest on FOI 0048-17

13:24 11 January 2017 Exchange between HMA Bahrain and FCO Gulf Team Desk Officer

**From:** Simon Martin

**Sent:** 11 January 2017 13:24

**To:** FCO Gulf Team Desk Officer; British Embassy Bahrain

**Cc:** FCO Gulf Team; FCO Media Office; Neil Bush Head of Arabian Peninsula & Iran Department

**Subject:** RE: Cameron visit to Bahrain

Mr Cameron visited from lunchtime yesterday until lunchtime today. As agreed with Neil Bush before Christmas we offered help within the guidelines for visiting former PMs: i.e. we made the necessary arrangements for his protection team and I offered to put in a request for meetings with the King and Crown Prince. In the end the latter wasn't needed because [Redacted] took on the liaison role with the Royal Court.

I briefed Mr C at his hotel on recent events yesterday afternoon.

Hope this helps.

Simon

Simon Martin

British Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

British Embassy Bahrain | 21 Government Avenue | Manama | P.O. Box 114 | Kingdom of Bahrain

**From:** FCO Gulf Team Desk Officer

**Sent:** 11 January 2017 16:05

**To:** Simon Martin British Embassy Bahrain

**Cc:** FCO Gulf Team; FCO Media Office

**Subject:** Cameron visit to Bahrain

Dear all,

As Mr Cameron's visit to Bahrain has made the headlines (in the Gulf at least) we can expect some attention back here in London I would imagine. Could you let me know if / how the Embassy was involved in this (what I'm assuming is a) private visit by the former Prime Minister? We may need some defensive lines in place and I would imagine our involvement would have been minimal but grateful if you could confirm.

*All dailies:* His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday at the Safriya Palace, received former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, David Cameron. His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al -Khalifa, Crown

Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, last night met with Cameron at Riffa Palace. HM the King highlighted the UK's active role in the international arena and its contributions to maintaining security and stability in the region and the world.

The Crown Prince welcomed the longstanding ties between Bahrain and the UK, stressing the importance of the wide-ranging cooperation between the two countries. Cameron also visited the Headquarters of Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB) and met with CEO Khalid Al-Romaihi. Al-Romaihi affirmed Bahrain is pushing forward with efforts to diversify the national economy, and that the EDB's strategic plan focuses on the development of the targeted economic sectors that form a competitive advantage for the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Many thanks,

| Desk Officer | Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department |

Extract from an official note from British Embassy Bahrain to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain and have the honour to inform the Ministry that the Right Honourable David Cameron, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, will be visiting Bahrain from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January until Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017. During this visit Mr Cameron will be hosted by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The Embassy will keep the Ministry informed of any further developments relating to Mr Cameron's delegation.

The Embassy's overall Point of Contact for the visit is [Redacted].

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain the assurances of their highest consideration.

**British Embassy Bahrain**

**BRITISH EMBASSY  
BAHRAIN  
28 December 2016**