

SAUDI ARABIA IN FOCUS

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE
INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE
ROYAL EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA
IN WASHINGTON, DC

AUGUST 16, 2005

TERRORISM

KINGDOM CONDEMNS KILLING OF SRI LANKAN OFFICIAL

At its August 15 meeting, the Cabinet condemned the criminal assassination on August 12 of Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar, and reiterated its repudiation of all forms of terrorism, pointing out that terrorism has neither religion nor homeland.

MIDDLE EAST

KINGDOM URGES FULL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

At its August 15 meeting, the Cabinet expressed the hope that Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip will be a step towards withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian lands; and reiterated Saudi Arabia's adherence to the peace initiative, proposed by King Abdullah at the 2002 Arab Summit in Beirut, that has been adopted as the Arab peace initiative for the region.

GOVERNMENT

CONDOLENCES CONTINUE

King Abdullah and Crown Prince Sultan received in Jeddah on August 15 former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela, who came to offer condolences on the recent sad demise of King Fahd. On August 14, former President of Iran Mohammad Khatami offered his condolences.

SOCIAL

CONJOINED EGYPTIAN TWINS GO HOME IN GOOD HEALTH

Conjoined Egyptian Siamese twins Wala'a and Ala'a left the National Guard's King Abdulaziz Medical City in Riyadh today in good health. The girls were successfully separated on June 25, 2005.

[see the 'Conjoined Twins' web site, <http://www.conjoinedtwins.med.sa>].

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