The original documents are located in Box 8, folder “4/29/75 - Toast for Working Dinner in Honor of King Hussein” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PRESIDENT'S TOAST
FOR WORKING DINNER
IN HONOR OF KING HUSSEIN

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1975
YOUR MAJESTY...

WELCOME BACK TO WASHINGTON. IT IS ALWAYS A
PLEASURE TO HAVE YOUR MAJESTY AND OUR JORDANIAN FRIENDS
WITH US IN THIS HOUSE. IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE FOR ME
TO RECALL THAT YOU WERE MY FIRST VISITOR FROM ABROAD AS
PRESIDENT.
THE FACT THAT YOU ARE HERE TONIGHT REFLECTS THE CLOSENESS OF THE TIES BETWEEN OUR NATIONS. WE VALUE THIS RELATIONSHIP. WE ALSO CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO OUR MUTUAL QUEST FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.
YOUR MAJESTY, I APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO

EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU THIS MORNING ON THE SITUATION IN

THE MIDDLE EAST AND ON PROSPECTS FOR PEACE.
I BELIEVE very strongly that peace in the Middle East is not only essential for the parties in the area but also of great importance to the interests of the United States and of the world at large.
THE ISSUE TODAY IS NOT WHETHER WE WILL CONTINUE THESE EFFORTS BUT HOW WE WILL CONTINUE THEM.

THE ALTERNATIVE OF A STELATE IS INTOLERABLE SINCE THE CONSEQUENCE COULD BE WAR.
OUR INITIAL SUCCESSES IN THE PURSUIT OF PEACE -- THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A CEASEFIRE, LIMITED DISENGAGEMENTS IN THE SINAI AND GOLAN, PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANTLY THE IMPROVED ATTITUDES IN THE AREA, A PREFERENCE FOR NEGOTIATION RATHER THAN RENEWED WARFARE AND A WILLINGNESS TO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF OTHERS TO EXIST IN PEACE -- WERE IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS.
BUT THE MOMENTUM MUST BE MAINTAINED; THERE MUST BE NEW PROGRESS. WE ARE EXAMINING ALL WAYS IN WHICH SUCH PROGRESS CAN BE ACHIEVED. WE ARE OPEN-MINDED AND FORWARD-LOOKING. WE ARE NOT DEBATING THE PAST. WE ARE LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE AND WE HOPE THE PARTIES MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED SHARE THIS VISION.
YOUR MAJESTY, THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS WE HAVE DEEPLY APPRECIATED THE BENEFIT OF YOUR COUNSEL AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF JORDAN. OUR SUPPORT FOR A SECURE, STABLE AND PROSPEROUS JORDAN UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF OUR POLICY.
OUR LONG-STANDING AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP HAS STOOD THE TESTS OF TIME AND TRIAL. YOU ARE A BRAVE MAN WHO LEADS A BRAVE NATION. YOUR VOICE OF REASON AND MODERATION IS IMPORTANT TO JORDAN AND TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE.
WE WANT TO CONTINUE OUR VERY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU AND WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT.

YOUR MAJESTY -- OUR FRIEND -- MAY I PROPOSE A TOAST TO YOU AND TO YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR SHARED GOAL OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

END OF TEXT