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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *deg.*

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 STALEMATE 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