

The original documents are located in Box 27, “3/30/76 - Remarks Upon the Arrival of King Hussein and Queen Alia of Jordan” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

ARRIVAL STATEMENT -- VISIT OF KING HUSSEIN

MARCH 30, 1976

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YOUR MAJESTY:

OUR WARM PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP IS BUT ONE
EXAMPLE OF THE CLOSENESS AND CONTINUITY THAT ARE SO
EVIDENT IN THE LONG FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN JORDAN AND THE
UNITED STATES.

I RECALL WITH PLEASURE MY FIRST OFFICIAL
MEETING WITH YOUR MAJESTY WHEN I WAS VICE PRESIDENT.
SHORTLY AFTER I BECAME PRESIDENT, YOU WERE THE FIRST
HEAD OF STATE I RECEIVED IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

TODAY, IT IS AGAIN MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO
WASHINGTON. I REAFFIRM MY GREETINGS OF TWO YEARS
AGO WITH A WONDERFUL ARABIC SAYING:
"OUR HOME IS YOUR HOME / AND YOU."

YOUR MAJESTY, AND YOUR GRACIOUS AND
LOVELY QUEEN, ARE INDEED WELCOME AND HONORED GUESTS.

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, I OFFER
OUR HOSPITALITY AND OUR AFFECTION. YOU ARE
SINCERE FRIENDS OF OUR COUNTRY.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF YOUR REIGN IN 1952,
YOU HAVE KNOWN AND SHARED THE CONFIDENCE OF EVERY
AMERICAN PRESIDENT BEGINNING WITH DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER.
DESPITE THE TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, OUR FRIENDSHIP
HAS WITHSTOOD EVERY TEST / AND MET EVERY CHALLENGE AND CRISIS.

WE CONTINUE TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE
EACH OTHER'S CONCERNS AND MOTIVATIONS. WE SHARE
A PROFOUND INTEREST IN THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THE
MIDDLE EAST. WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO
ACHIEVE THIS MUTUAL GOAL.

DURING A PERIOD COVERING FIVE AMERICAN
ADMINISTRATIONS, YOUR MAJESTY'S LEADERSHIP HAS
PROVIDED CONTINUITY IN THE SPECIAL ASSOCIATION OF OUR
TWO NATIONS. AS THE SYMBOL OF HASHEMITE JORDAN'S
COURAGE, HONOR AND STEADFASTNESS, YOUR MAJESTY IS
WIDELY ADMIRERD AND RESPECTED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES YOU HAVE
DEMONSTRATED YOUR DETERMINATION TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT
FOR YOUR OWN PEOPLE. YOU HAVE SHUNNED THE LINE
OF LEAST RESISTANCE AND STOOD FIRM IN THE FACE OF
ADVERSITY.

YOU HAVE PROVEN YOURSELF A LOYAL FRIEND OF AMERICA --
AND AMERICANS ADMIRE LOYALTY.

AMERICANS ALSO ADMIRE WISDOM AND
COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP. WE VALUE YOUR ROLE AS A
FORCE FOR REASON AND MODERATION IN PURSUIT OF A JUST
AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.
WE VALUE YOUR COUNSEL.

DURING YOUR STAY IN WASHINGTON,
YOUR MAJESTY, WE SHALL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS
A WIDE RANGE OF BILATERAL AND REGIONAL CONCERNS.

WE SHALL DISCUSS OUR COOPERATION IN STRENGTHENING
AND DEVELOPING THE KINGDOM OF JORDAN. AND WE SHALL
CONSIDER HOW, AS FRIENDS, WE CAN ADVANCE THE CAUSE
OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
JORDAN HAVE BEEN SO CLOSE THEY HAVE BECOME A TRADITION.
OUR COMMON ENDEAVOR IS SO FIRMLY ROOTED THAT I
WELCOME YOU NOT ONLY AS A STATESMAN AND LEADER OF
A PROUD NATION, BUT ALSO AS A SINCERE FRIEND WHO HAS
COME TO VISIT AMONG FRIENDS.

WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE YOUR MAJESTIES
WITH US AGAIN. I HOPE THAT YOUR STAY IN THE
UNITED STATES WILL REINFORCE THE BONDS BETWEEN OUR
TWO NATIONS IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

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