

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

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

PRESIDENT'S TOAST AT STATE DINNER FOR

KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN

MARCH 30, 1976

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YOUR MAJESTIES, HONORED GUESTS,

IT WAS IN 1959 THAT PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

HAD THE HONOR TO WELCOME YOUR MAJESTY TO THE WHITE

HOUSE ON YOUR FIRST VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

FIFTEEN YEARS LATER, IT WAS MY GREAT  
PRIVILEGE TO GREET YOU AS THE FIRST CHIEF OF STATE  
TO VISIT WASHINGTON DURING MY OWN ADMINISTRATION.

IN THAT TIME SPAN, THE WORLD POLITICAL  
SCENE HAS CHANGED PROFOUNDLY. YET, THROUGHOUT  
THIS PROCESS OF CHANGE, THERE HAVE BEEN REASSURING  
ELEMENTS OF STABILITY AND CONSTANCY IN THE RELATIONSHIPS  
BETWEEN COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

A PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY EXAMPLE IS THE FRIENDSHIP  
AND MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE  
HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN.

YOUR MAJESTIES, / OUR PEOPLES SHARE  
MANY GOALS. TOGETHER WE ASPIRE TO THE ECONOMIC  
WELL BEING OF OUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN; } TO THE UNIVERSAL  
BETTERMENT OF THE HUMAN CONDITION; } AND TO CLOSER  
COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL STATES. WE ASPIRE TO THE  
IDEAL OF FREEDOM AND DIGNITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL.

BUT THERE IS ONE PARTICULAR GOAL WHICH  
WE BOTH DEEPLY WISH TO ATTAIN. IT IS A JUST AND  
LASTING PEACE FOR ALL THE NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF  
THE MIDDLE EAST. OUR OWN TWO COUNTRIES ARE  
DETERMINED TO WORK TOGETHER TO OVERCOME ALL  
OBSTACLES THAT STAND BETWEEN US AND THAT END.

AMERICANS ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE YOU  
AS A STAUNCH FRIEND. I KNOW THAT YOU SHARE  
OUR HOPES FOR PEACE WITH FREEDOM. YOU HAVE  
DEMONSTRATED YOUR WILLINGNESS TO JOIN US IN  
FACING SQUARELY THE GREAT CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME.

I WAS PLEASED TODAY TO DISCUSS AT  
LENGTH THOSE ISSUES WHICH BOTH OUR COUNTRIES FACE  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HIS MAJESTY AND I AGREED THAT,  
IN ADDITION TO THE PROGRESS THAT PEACEMAKING EFFORTS  
HAVE ACHIEVED SO FAR, MUCH MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE.

WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE MANY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS  
THAT MUST BE OVERCOME TO SECURE A JUST AND LASTING  
PEACE. THESE PROBLEMS WILL NOT BE SOLVED TONIGHT,  
OR EVEN TOMORROW. BUT WE KNOW THEY MUST BE SOLVED.

WE ARE JOINTLY COMMITTED TO PERSEVERE

IN THE PURSUIT OF PEACE. WE ARE MORE THAN EVER

DETERMINED THAT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS MUST CONTINUE.

A SETTLEMENT MUST BE OBTAINED THAT WILL FULFILL THE

ASPIRATIONS OF ALL THE STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE

EAST/FOR PEACE, STABILITY AND HUMAN PROGRESS.

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CERTAINLY THE UNITED STATES COULD NOT

HOPE FOR A MORE ABLE AND HONORED ASSOCIATE IN THIS

HISTORIC TASK THAN HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN.

YOUR MAJESTY, YOUR DETERMINATION,  
COURAGE, AND DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN  
THE MIDDLE EAST ARE SO WELL-KNOWN THAT ANY REPETITION  
ON MY PART OF YOUR DISTINGUISHED ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
IS UNNECESSARY.

YOU ARE NO LESS FAMED FOR YOUR PERSONAL COURAGE,  
YOUR FORTHRIGHTNESS, YOUR DEDICATION TO THE WELFARE  
OF YOUR PEOPLE, AND FOR YOUR LOYALTY TO YOUR FRIENDS.



I AM PROUD TO SALUTE YOU TONIGHT, NOT ONLY AS  
A STATESMAN AND LEADER, BUT ALSO AS A CLOSE  
PERSONAL FRIEND AND A FRIEND OF OUR NATION.

I TAKE SPECIAL PLEASURE IN WELCOMING  
ANOTHER OUTSTANDING REPRESENTATIVE OF JORDAN,  
HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN. SHE WAS ONCE IN OUR COUNTRY  
AS A STUDENT AND WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME HER AS A  
GRACIOUS QUEEN WHOSE CHARM CAPTIVATES US AS IT DOES  
THE JORDANIAN PEOPLE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK YOU TO RISE AND JOIN  
WITH ME IN A TOAST TO HIS MAJESTY, KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN,  
A PARTNER IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE, A DISTINGUISHED LEADER,  
AND A TRUE FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO HER MAJESTY,  
QUEEN ALIA (ALL-E-YAH)•

END OF TEXT