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 SAID...

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.

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 REPEITION 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