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4/21/75

HASSAN CANCELLATION

- Q. Did King Hassan of Morocco abruptly cancel his planned State Visit to the U. S. because of the Middle East situation following the suspension of the negotiations? Was a date set for visiting Washington? How will this affect U. S. -Moroccan relations?
- A. This State Visit had been under discussion for some time and planned for late April, but the Moroccan Government informed us several weeks ago that they would prefer that it be postponed -- to a later date. No new date has yet been set, but the President naturally looks forward to meeting with the King at a mutually convenient time. Relations with Morocco have always been friendly and remain friendly, and this postponement has no bearing on those relations.
- Q. Was a date actually set?
- A. [If pressed] Both sides had agreed on April 22, but the postponement occurred before the visit was announced. Both sides will try to find another mutually convenient date, but I have nothing to give you on any new date now.
- Q. Did King Hassan postpone because of the situation in the Middle East and the breakdown of the talks?
- A. That is an issue to address to the Moroccans.

Q. Is the Tunisian still coming or will he cancel?

A. Tunisian Prime Minister Nouria is still scheduled to make an Official Visit to Washington on May 1. We have already announced this. [Oval Office meeting and Stag Working Dinner on May 1].  
The President looks forward to meeting with the Prime Minister.