

March 31, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President and His Majesty, King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan met in the Oval Office at 11:07 a.m. for one hour and twenty-five minutes. Also attending the meeting on the American side were Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Under Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Thomas Pickering, and Brent Scowcroft; and on the Jordanian side Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Rifai.

The President and His Majesty reviewed briefly the latest developments concerning the situation in Lebanon. They devoted most of their time to discussing how best to make further progress toward a just and durable peace in the Middle East, an objective which is of the utmost importance to both the United States and Jordan. The President reiterated his determination to see that the momentum of the peace process is maintained. He and His Majesty reviewed various possibilities for diplomatic action which might offer realistic hopes for additional movement toward peace. They also discussed matters of U.S. -Jordanian bilateral relations, particularly in the economic and military assistance fields.

The President added that he and Mrs. Ford looked forward to seeing His Majesty and Queen Alia at the reception to be given by Their Highnesses this evening.

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