

**WASHINGTON DATELINE**

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*King Hussein's Visit*

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Jordan's King Hussein met Ronald Reagan for the first time a short while ago and although the two leaders got along very well, their strategies differ on how to bring peace to the Middle East.

During his 4-day state visit to Washington, the third monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Hussein ibn Talal lauded Saudi Arabia's peace plans as "worthy of consideration" and stressed that the Palestinians should be involved in peace efforts.

"As far as the 8-point Saudi plan is concerned," Hussein said, "it doesn't differ basically from any of the positions that we've adopted over the many years of the problem. The Saudi contribution is worthy of consideration."

The Saudis are desirous of American acceptance of their plans for peace as an alternative to the Camp David accords. However, President Reagan said he has no intention of deviating from the Camp David approach. And King Hussein maintains that the Camp David accords are "inadequate as a framework for solving the Palestinian question. In their Oval Office talks, King Hussein told Mr. Reagan about Israeli Prime Minister Begin's "intransigence" and also described the Jewish settlements on the West Bank as a "serious obstacle" to peace.

During his welcoming ceremony on the South Lawn, King Hussein also referred to the Palestinian problem. "At this turbulent and critical time I see in jeopardy not only Arab rights and legitimate interests but a threat to the very Arab identity and the rights of future Arab generations," he stated. "I also see the larger threats to world peace as well as to the vital interests to all those concerned with the security of our region including the U.S.A."

Hussein added that it was his hope to present "our case convincingly in the interest of all and thus achieve greater mutual understanding."

"In doing so," he stressed "we can pave the way towards formulating proper policies and build once more lasting and strengthened relations between us based on clear and solid foundations. It's a great task and a great challenge. It's indeed a duty. And despite the difficulties that surround us now I'm optimistic and I'm determined. I'm also hopeful that when I return home I'll be able to carry to my people and to my colleagues at the next Arab summit, promising impressions and favorable news."

President Reagan in his remarks, noted: "Our friendship with King Hussein has stood the test of time. It is based on shared interests, but also common values and mutual respect. During the three decades that he has led Jordan, America has maintained an unwavering dedi-

cation to the search for Mideast peace, and over these many years, he has been our friend. "For our part, no one should doubt that the preservation of Jordan's security, integrity and its unique and enduring character remains a matter of highest importance."

President and Mrs. Reagan hosted a State Dinner in honor of His Majesty and his wife, Queen Noor al-Hussein. In his after-dinner toast the President said: "Tonight we honor a man for whom liberty has personal as well as political meaning. We honor a head of state who has been a leader in the search for a just and lasting peace. Such a peace has been one of the most vexing international problems in the post-war world. Yet his majesty has never abandoned the belief that people of good will through dedication and vision can find the means to bring peace with dignity, justice and security to his region. The path ahead is fraught with both danger and opportunity; but after our talks, I remain certain we will walk this path as friends. Where we differed, we did so in that spirit and discussed how we can work together in complementary ways to achieve our shared goals."

The President told His Majesty that he learned much from their discussions; and His Majesty concluded that even though he has been a guest of U.S. Presidents since Dwight Eisenhower -- "no visit has been more important than this one at this time, at this point in history."

"Before I met President Reagan," King Hussein said "I was feeling the weight of the responsibility I bore, because there is so much at stake in terms which I can't express -- for now and for tomorrow."

After meeting on Capitol Hill with members of Congress, King Hussein said he is optimistic that the United States will contribute to "durable, just peace" in the Mideast. "I'm deeply moved by President Reagan's warmth, sincerity and commitment to the cause of establishing a lasting peace," he said.

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill lauded the Jordanian Monarch as a "good friend and a force for stability and moderation in a troubled world."

Nonetheless, Reagan aides are of the opinion that U.S. - Jordanian relations -- strained after the 1978 Camp David accords -- need to be strengthened particularly now that King Hussein has turned to Moscow for new air defense missiles. According to the State Department, no commitments were given as to U.S. weaponry but the visit was termed as "positive."

King Hussein, who has ruled longer than any other current leader in the Middle East, will celebrate his 45th birthday on November 14. He was named King in 1952 when his father, King Talal, abdicated. He was accompanied on this visit by his wife, Lisa Halaby, the American-born girl he married in 1978, and their two sons.

For Their Majesties' State Dinner, Frank

Sinatra arranged the entertainment portion of the event and invited Benny Goodman and his Quartet -- providing much nostalgia in the East Room -- especially when Buddy Rich soloed on drums.

During the traditional exchange of gifts, President Reagan gave the King of Jordan a sterling silver rendition of Hussein's private 727 jet airplane mounted atop a cherrywood box; and a silver picture frame containing an autographed photograph of President Reagan. Mrs. Reagan gave Queen Noor a Boehm porcelain red rose known as the "Nancy Reagan Rose."

His Majesty brought for President Reagan a Jordanian-crafted saddle of embroidered wool decorated with multi-colored beads with leather trim, black tassels and metal stirrups. The Queen brought from Amman for Mrs. Reagan a wall hanging depicting a composite scene of Bedouin life made of hand-loomed silk fabric and decorated with shells, beads, and silver coins which date from the Turkish period.

Before departing Washington for Los Angeles, Their Majesties were guests of honor at a glittering dinner party at The Renwick Gallery, hosted by the new Jordan Ambassador, Abdul Hadi Majali and his wife. The Royal pair shared the dias with Vice President and Mrs. George Bush and Secretary of State and Mrs. Alexander Haig Jr. and chief of protocol Leonore Annenberg. Other guests included Attorney General and Mrs. William French Smith; CIA Director and Mrs. William J. Casey; Deputy White House Chief of Staff and Mrs. Michael Deaver; Deputy Secretary of State and Mrs. William P. Clark; and Senators Paul Laxalt, Charles Percy, John Tower and James McClure.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- "Isratech - 1981," an industrial fair featuring Israel-made machinery, electronics, transportation, security, and safety products and energy conservation systems was formally opened by Premier Menachem Begin at Binyanei HaOoma convention Hall here. The primary purpose of the fair is to expose Israeli technology to foreign buyers, said one official. Begin stressed at the same time that Israel's combination of "brains and skilled hands" compensated for its lack of natural resources.

MEXICO CITY (WNS) -- Sergio Nudelstejer, a Mexican Jewish writer and intellectual, was admitted to the Mexican Institute of Culture. He was awarded the title "Numbered Member" of the Institute, which is headed by former president Miguel Aleman and is the foremost exponent of Mexican culture. It was reported Nov. 11, Nudelstejer submitted an essay entitled "Franz Kafka, Conscience of an Era."

**POPULATION GROWTH SLOWS**

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Population growth in Israel this year has been the slowest since establishment of Israel, according to the Government's statistical annual issue. The increase in the Jewish population was a meager one percent, compared to nearly three percent among Israeli non-Jews. Natural growth, defined as births minus deaths, also was smaller this year than in previous years. Net migration, the difference between immigration and emigration, was negative. Some 9,000 more Israelis left Israel than entered it.

The Central Bureau of Statistics estimated that the number of

Israelis who have left Israel since its establishment is 300,000. Meanwhile, Israeli

women are bearing fewer children, there are fewer marriages, and more divorces.

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