

THE WHITE HOUSE

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WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telecon with King Hussein of Jordan on
July 16, 1991 (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
King Hussein
Notetaker: Bruce O. Riedel

DATE, TIME July 16, 1991; 2:14 - 2:20 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE: London, UK

The President initiated the call. (U)

The President: Hello. How are you? How is your heart these days? We both have the same troubles. (U)

The King: I'm fine and I'm glad to see on TV that you are well. (U)

The President: I wanted to talk to you today about the peace process. President Assad's letter is a positive step toward peace. It creates the basis for progress. I'm sending Jim Baker to the region to build on the impetus, to follow up on the momentum from the Syrian letter. Assad's response should make it easier for you to form a joint delegation with the Palestinians, and for Jordan and Palestinians from the occupied territories to go to a conference. (S)

We feel Yassir Arafat should not choose the delegation. We have been troubled by his recent statements on his visit to Baghdad which are critical of the process. I would like you to think about several issues. Can you commit Jordan to attend a conference? Can you help form the joint delegation? (S)

If you can move, it will help us get the process going. It is time for action, we are eager to hear from you. (S)

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The King: We are very encouraged by all these developments. We are still waiting for the Palestinians to contact us. They must choose their delegation. We are ready for them. Sir, we are doing everything we can. (S)

Do not worry about the Arafat visit to Iraq. He is only conveying Egyptian and Libyan concerns about the nuclear issue -- urging them to open everything for inspection. (S)

In the meantime we trying to move them. When Arafat comes to Amman next we will do more. (S)

The President: We appreciate your efforts. We will run more ideas past you as they develop. I'll see Gorbachev tomorrow and we are close to a START agreement. (S)

The King: That is wonderful news. We here are trying to do our best to make our dreams for the area a reality. (S)

The President: We'll be in touch. (U)

Goodbyes.

-- End of Conversation --

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