

Middle East Peace Process

Q. Your Majesty, do you believe that it is time to convene the Arab family of nations in order to support these agreements which were signed between Jordan and Israel, and between the Palestinians and Israel, and make ways in order to clear the political environment, which is very poisoned in the Arab world, and prepare and begin for the reconciliation process between the family of the Arab world?

King Hussein. I believe this is inevitable. And at the same time I know that you know that we have been trying to get that for a long period of time. It will happen I hope and before too long.

Q. Your Majesty, what does it take when more is still needed to be done for your grandson and my son, who have met before but abroad, to meet respectively in Amman and Tel Aviv? And also, since we are on a live broadcast to Israel, would you care to carry a message directly to the Israeli people?

King Hussein. I hope to share with the people of Israel the hopes that the people of Jordan share with me that we are on the verge of the breaking of a new dawn for all our peoples for a secure, safe future, for a future of peace, cooperation, for human relations to develop and grow between us. And I hope that the answer will come as a result of our joint efforts, which I hope, following this meeting, we will be able to shepherd, both the Prime Minister and myself, in terms of the tasks ahead of negotiating on all aspects of the problems that we still have to resolve, in other words, using his words, the building blocks of peace that will culminate in a peace treaty hopefully before long.

I hope it won't be long before what you suggest will happen, sir.

Russia and Estonia

The President. Let me say one other thing before we leave. I think that King Hussein and the Prime Minister have put peace in the air all over the world.

A few hours ago, I received a message from President Yeltsin saying, first of all, how pleased he was about what had happened here between Jordan and Israel and, sec-

only, that he had reached agreement with President Meri of Estonia to withdraw all Russian troops from Estonia by August 31st.

As you know, this has been one of the principal objectives of American policy, so that now, for the first time since the end of World War II, on the last day of August there will be no more Russian troops in Germany or anywhere in Eastern Europe. And I think maybe the vibrations of peace that the King and the Prime Minister have sent out—who knows what may be announced tomorrow.

Thank you very much, and good day.

NOTE: The President's 67th news conference began at 4:15 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this news conference.

Remarks at a Reception Honoring King Hussein of Jordan and Prime Minister Rabin of Israel

July 26, 1994

Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. Thank you for your kind remarks. Thank you for being a remarkable host tonight for this fitting capstone of the last 2 days. And thank you for your tireless efforts toward this remarkable achievement. The world is in your debt as well, sir, and we're grateful to you.

What a 2 days this has been. It's been so elevating and so exhilarating, I hesitate to diminish it in any way with a little humor. But when we were being called in and we realized, the three of us, that once more we were going to be asked to say something, I said, "Isn't it wonderful we're going to give another speech." [Laughter] His Majesty rolled his eyes—[laughter]—and the Prime Minister said, "You go in and tell everybody we're very grateful to them, we've had a wonderful time, and we're going to eat and drink some more." [Laughter]

I think America will long remember the remarkable signing ceremony yesterday and the gripping appearance of King Hussein and Prime Minister Rabin before the joint session of Congress today. They were truly magnificent. They remind us by the events here in the last 2 days and by the lives that they

brought here that it still is possible for hope to triumph over hate, for unity to triumph over division, for optimism to vanquish cynicism even in this day and time.

And I want to say a special word of thanks on behalf of the American people for this process in the Middle East. Your Majesty, Prime Minister, if you look out in this room today, there are Jewish-American and Arab-American citizens of my country who never knew each other before this process began, who never related to each other, who always wondered if they really did share the same citizenship, the same experiences, the same feelings and values. Now they're part of the Builders for Peace program. They're talking about all the young people coming over here from Jordan and Israel and Egypt and Morocco in the Seeds for Peace program. They're imagining what might happen in the new world of investment and trade and human contact between people in the United States and people in the Middle East. So that is something that we owe you as Americans.

I am very proud of the role the United States has been able to play in this process, but all we can ever do is to make it possible for brave leaders to feel secure enough, certain enough, trusting enough of us so that they can do what it is in their heart they wish to do. If we have done that, I am very proud and grateful for the opportunity to have done that.

But in the end, we must, all of us, be grateful to these two remarkable men and their remarkable nations. And we must commit, all of us, to make sure that the great journey they have started has a successful conclusion. That is my commitment. And with that, I welcome them to this podium and thank them for these last 2 magnificent days.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:25 p.m. in the Benjamin Franklin Room at the State Department.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting Documents on the Palau-United States Compact of Free Association

July 26, 1994

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:
(Dear Mr. Chairman:)*

On November 9, 1993, the voters in Palau approved the Compact of Free Association between the United States and Palau, opening the way for the Compact to be brought into force 7 years after the passage by the Congress of U.S. legislation approving the Compact.

In giving its approval to the Compact of Free Association, the Congress required the transmittal of certain agreements, Palau's Economic Development Plan, and a report on that Plan, at least 30 days (excluding days on which both Houses of Congress are not in session) prior to the effective date of the Compact.

Therefore, in accordance with section 101 of the Compact of Free Association with Palau Act, Public Law 101-219 (December 12, 1989), section 101(d)(1)(C) and (2) of the Compact of Free Association Approval Act, Public Law 99-658 (November 14, 1986), and section 102(b) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985, Public Law 99-239 (January 14, 1986), I am hereby submitting the Economic Development Plan of the Republic of Palau, including this report thereon with supporting material, copies of certain subsidiary agreements between the United States and Palau, and an agreement between Palau and the United States establishing October 1, 1994, as the effective date for the Compact, provided that all lawsuits in Palau challenging the compact have been resolved by that date. A separate letter from the President of Palau commenting on the Economic Development Plan also is attached.

The Congress also required that approval of the Compact be free of legal challenge in Palau and that I certify that there are no legal impediments to the ability of the United States to carry out fully its responsibilities and to exercise its rights under the defense-