

Prime Minister.



The alternatives are: - Foreign and Commonwealth Office

(a) just talks at 5.00 p.m.
on Friday, 16 December

London SW1A 2AH

30 November, 1983

(b) talks that day at 6.00 p.m.
followed by dinner at 7.00 to 7.15.

*Would prefer
just talks*

Dear John, *Which would you prefer?*

Visit by King Hussein

A.S.C. 20/11

But we should have this

HM Ambassador at Amman has reported that King Hussein would like to visit Britain immediately after he addresses the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 15 December (I enclose a copy of Amman telno 545). Although he has no firm plans, he is likely to travel to London on 16 December and then to leave London for Vienna on about 22 December. Before making firm plans King Hussein would like to know whether the Prime Minister would be available to see him in that period.

when Sir A-P can attend. This is important

Sir Geoffrey Howe believes that this would be a very timely opportunity to have discussions with the King, and recommends that the Prime Minister should agree to see him. The King is clearly worried about the stagnation in the Middle East peace process and the increasing threat from Syria, as he made clear to Mr Luce when he saw him in Amman on 6 November. He will wish to discuss with the Prime Minister the implications for the resumption of Arab/Israel negotiations of his intention to recall the Jordanian Parliament. The Prime Minister and King Hussein recently exchanged letters on this. For our part, the visit will provide an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to Jordan and to explore ways in which we can help to revive the peace process.

MS

I understand that the Prime Minister's diary would permit a meeting on the afternoon of 16 December. You might also wish to consider whether the Prime Minister's programme would enable her to offer a meal to the King during his stay. If you are able to confirm a time at which the Prime Minister could see the King, we will telegraph the details to Amman.

The Jordanian Commander in Chief, General Sharif Raid Bin Shaker, will also be in London at the same time as the King. As he is a cousin of King Hussein and ranks in importance next after Crown Prince Hassan, the Prime Minister might wish to include him in any hospitality offered to the King. The King may in any case propose that he bring General Shaker when he calls at No 10.

*Yours ever,
Peter Ricketts*

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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PP AMMAN
GRS 76
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FM F C O 021144Z DEC 83
TO PRIORITY AMMAN
TELEGRAM NUMBER 327 OF 2 DECEMBER
INFO MOD (FOR PS SECRETARY OF STATE, PS/CDS, PS/HDS) PARIS
STRASBOURG, TUNIS, UKREP BRUSSELS AND VIENNA

DJB
in diary
CR

YOUR TELNO 545: POSSIBLE VISIT TO BRITAIN BY KING HUSSEIN
1. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE GLAD TO OFFER KING HUSSEIN
TALKS AT 1700 ON 16 DECEMBER. GIVEN HER VERY BUSY
PROGRAMME UNTIL CHRISTMAS SHE WILL NOT (NOT) BE ABLE TO OFFER
THE KING A MEAL ON THIS OCCASION.

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1 December 1983

VISTT BY KING HUSSEIN

Thank you for your letter of 30 November.

The Prime Minister would like to offer King Hussein talks at 1700 hours on Friday, 16 December. Given her very busy programme until Christmas, the Prime Minister would prefer not to offer a meal to the King on the occasion of this visit.

A. J. DOLES

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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FM AMMAN 200850Z NOV 83

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 545 OF 27 NOVEMBER 1983

REPEATED FOR INFO TO MOD (FOR PS/SECRETARY OF STATE, PSO/CDS AND PS/HDS), PARIS, STRASBOURG, TUNIS, UKREP BRUSSELS AND VIENNA.

MIPT: POSSIBLE VISIT TO BRITAIN BY KING HUSSEIN

1. I REPORTED IN PARA 1 OF MIPT KING HUSSEIN'S WISH TO VISIT BRITAIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS ADDRESS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN STRASBOURG ON 15 DECEMBER, PROVIDED HE CAN BE ASSURED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE HIM AT THAT TIME.
2. I DISCUSSED KING HUSSEIN'S TRAVEL PLANS PRIVATELY WITH THE HEAD OF PROTOCOL AND UNDERSTAND HE PLANS LEAVING AMMAN FOR PARIS ON 12 DECEMBER, WHERE HE IS TO SEE PRESIDENT MITTERAND (THIS HAS ALSO BEEN CONFIRMED TO ME BY THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR) . HE GOES ON TO STRASBOURG ON 14/15 DECEMBER TO ADDRESS THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, WOULD TRAVEL TO LONDON ON 16 DECEMBER (ALWAYS ASSUMING THAT THE PRIME MINISTER CAN SEE HIM DURING THAT PERIOD AND WOULD THEN LEAVE LONDON FOR VIENNA AROUND 22 DECEMBER FOR A BRIEF HOLIDAY.
3. THESE PLANS ARE NOT FIRM AND MUCH WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER THE PRIME MINISTER CAN SEE HIM. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR EARLY ADVICE ON THIS POINT.
4. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, WHO WILL BE IN LONDON IN ANY CASE AT THAT TIME, TOLD ME TODAY THAT HE FULLY EXPECTS THE KING TO VISIT LONDON AFTER STRASBOURG. HE MENTIONED A POSSIBLE ARAB SUMMIT MEETING JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS AS ANOTHER POTENTIAL COMPLICATION WHICH MIGHT AFFECT THE KING'S HOLIDAY PLANS IN VIENNA.

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