

EMBARGO: 12.00 MIDNIGHT**PRIME MINISTER**FOR PRESS9 March 1976

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 1976 AT THE
CONCLUSION OF THE STATE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF THE KING AND QUEEN
OF JORDAN

Their Majesties King Hussein I and Queen Alia of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan paid a State Visit to Australia from 2 to 9 March 1976.

The visit, which served to reflect the deep warmth of relations existing between the two countries, took place at the invitation of Their Excellencies the Governor-General of Australia, Sir John Kerr, and Lady Kerr.

Their Majesties visited Canberra from 2 to 4 March, Melbourne from 4 to 6 March and Sydney from 6 to 9 March.

In Canberra, His Majesty the King of Jordan had discussions with His Excellency the Governor-General, with the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Right Honourable Malcolm Fraser, M.P., with the Foreign Minister, the Honourable Andrew Peacock, M.P. and with the Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Gough Whitlam, Q.C., M.P., and with members of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of the Australian Cabinet. Their Majesties attended a dinner given in their honour by the Governor-General and Lady Kerr, and the King and Queen subsequently offered a dinner in honour of Their Excellencies. His Majesty the King also attended a luncheon given at Parliament House by the Australian Prime Minister. Their Majesties received the Heads of Diplomatic Missions and visited

the Australian War Memorial. The King was guest of honour at a National Press Club luncheon.

King Hussein and the Australian Prime Minister examined closely the prospects for closer economic, scientific, technical and agricultural co-operation between the two countries.

The Australian Government noted Jordan's impressive record of economic growth and its plans for economic and social development in the period 1976 to 1980.

Both sides agreed that a broad agreement should be concluded between the two countries outlining basic principles for the expansion of their trade, economic, technical and scientific co-operation, and for the establishment of agricultural and industrial joint ventures.

It was agreed that officials of the two countries should meet at an early date to identify specific areas of such cooperation and to establish a framework within which such programmes could be most effectively implemented.

The Australian Government indicated that it would be glad to consider proposals for Australian technical co-operation with Jordan in such fields as irrigation, dry land farming, agricultural mechanisation, technical education, scientific research and the use of solar energy, with a view to supporting and contributing towards Jordan's plans for economic and social development.

Following discussions of possible initiatives in Australian-Jordanian cultural and scientific relations, the Australian Government proposed to invite senior Jordanian officials to visit Australia to pursue the prospects of continuing scientific co-operation and exchange.

It was agreed that the question of the introduction of air services between Jordan and Australia would be kept

under review and that it would be desirable for efforts to be made to encourage an increase in the flow of tourist traffic between the two countries.

Extensive discussions were held between the King and his advisers and the Australian Government on Middle East issues. King Hussein outlined to the Australian Prime Minister and Ministers the background to the continuing Middle East dispute and Mr Fraser and his Ministers showed their concern at the dispute and its wider implications.

Both sides were agreed on the urgent need for the implementation of Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) of the United Nations Security Council.

Both sides were agreed on the need for any settlement to take account of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and of the right of all states in the area to exist within secure and recognised boundaries.

In Melbourne, Their Majesties attended a State Reception given in their honour by His Excellency the Governor of Victoria and Lady Winneke. The King also visited the Werribee State Research Farm, where he saw the Cameron Laboratory of Animal Husbandry Research, the Gilbert Chandler Institute of Dairy Technology, the Plant Breeding Laboratory and the Veterinary Clinical Centre. Later His Majesty saw cars under test at the proving ground of the Ford Motor Company of Australia. The Queen inspected the National Gallery of Victoria. Their Majesties were entertained by the Victorian Racing Club at Flemington Racecourse.

In Sydney, Their Majesties attended a State Dinner given in their honour by the Government of New South Wales. The King visited establishments of the Royal Australian Navy and inspected the Qantas Airways Base at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport. The Queen visited the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children. Their Majesties also inspected the Sydney Opera House.

The King was accompanied by the following members of his family:

Her Royal Highness Princess Alia

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma

His Excellency Mr Taimur Daghestani

The other members of the King's Official Suite were:

His Excellency Mr Zeid Al-Rifa'i (Prime Minister and Foreign Minister) and Mrs Al-Rifa'i

His Highness Prince Ra'ad Bin Zeid (Lord Chamberlain to His Majesty)

His Excellency Mr Raja'i Muasher (Minister of Trade and Industry)

His Excellency the Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Mrs Amer Shammout

Major General Awad Alhalidi (Military Adviser to His Majesty)

His Excellency Dr Hana Odeh (Chief of the Jordanian National Development Board)

His Excellency Mr Yanal Hikmat (Chief of Royal Protocol)

Brigadier Samir Farraj (Personal Physician to His Majesty)

Colonel Mohammad Kassab (Commander of the Royal Special Guard)

Colonel Bader Zaza (Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty)

The Australian officials accompanying Their Majesties were:

His Excellency the Australian Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Mrs P.N. Hutton

Group Captain J.R. Boast, D.S.O., A.F.C. (Aide-de-Camp)

Mr J.H. Scholtens, C.V.O. (Director, Ceremonial and Hospitality)

Mr W.G.N. Orr, C.V.O. M.B.E., E.D. (Deputy Director, Ceremonial and Hospitality)

Mr G.F. O'Regan (Assistant Director, Ceremonial and Hospitality)

Mrs T. Shand (Department of Foreign Affairs)

Mr I.S. Lincoln (Department of Foreign Affairs)

Mr G.R. Wicks (Media Liaison Officer)

At the conclusion of the State Visit the Australian Government expressed pleasure that King Hussein had made this visit, the first by the Head of State of an Arab nation to Australia. His Majesty expressed his gratitude for Australia's hospitality and extended invitations to His Excellency the Governor-General and the Australian Prime Minister to visit Jordan at a mutually agreed time.