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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with King Hussein of Jordan
(U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
King Hussein
C. David Welch, NSC Staff, Notetaker

DATE, TIME July 31, 1990, 9:47 - 9:50 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

King Hussein initiated the telephone call to the President. (U)

The President: How are you, your Majesty? (U)

King Hussein: Really very well, sir, and you? (U)

The President: Very anxious to get this call; what's happening?
(U)

King Hussein: Well, sir, they are meeting -- I think right now or soon -- in Saudi Arabia. On the Iraqi side, they send their best regards and highest esteem to you, sir. They are a bit angry about the situation, but I believe that hopefully something will be worked out to the benefit of greater cooperation and development in the area. (C)

The President: Without any fighting? (C)

King Hussein: Oh yes, sir, that will be the case. (C)

The President: I see... (U)

King Hussein: If you will permit, sir, some thoughts on the future as they see it. They have been through a war of eight years, a terrible experience for the country. They need to repair and for that, stable oil prices are necessary. You know, some of our other brethren, oil-producers, also blame the two countries involved for over-producing. The atmosphere in Kuwait is good. They will seek to arrange things in a way that is satisfactory to all. Iraq feels a need for a broader plan for the area, in which a way can be found to help out those nations that are less fortunate -- for the haves to help the have-nots. Iraq will even pitch in as the first donor, perhaps to a development fund to meet the needs of others with larger populations and less resources. (C)

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The President: Well, I appreciate this call. I take it you've just been to both places? (U)

King Hussein: Yes. Going in and out of the heat and air-conditioning I caught a terrible cold. I was going to call you last night but thought better of it. But the atmosphere is good. It looks tense but it will ease up. (C)

The President: Thanks very much for the call. (U)

King Hussein: I'll put down some thoughts in the next few days and maybe I'll have a chance to present them to you personally. (C)

The President: Would you object if we put out a release on this call; I always like to publicize these things if it's all right with you. (C)

King Hussein: No -- no objection. Best regards from Noor to Barbara, and all our love for everyone. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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