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 FM WASHINGTON 052300Z NOV 81
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 TELEGRAM NUMBER 3317 OF 5 NOVEMBER
 INFO PRIORITY AMMAN, TEL AVIV, JEDDA, CAIRO
 INFO SAVING TO BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, BAGHDAD, MOSCOW, JERUSALEM

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US/JORDAN

1. HOWELL (COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR THE LEVANT) BRIEFED US TODAY ON KING HUSSEIN'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON FROM 2-5 NOVEMBER WITH REAGAN, BUSH, HAIG AND WEINBERGER. THE KING ALSO HAD A NUMBER OF MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. HE HAS NOW LEFT WASHINGTON FOR A VISIT TO CALIFORNIA.
2. HOWELL DESCRIBED THE VISIT AS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS. REAGAN AND HUSSEIN HAD ESTABLISHED A GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP. HOWELL THOUGHT THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE KING AND THAT HE WAS COMING TO REALISE THAT ARABS WHO OPPOSED THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS WERE NOT NECESSARILY MONSTERS.
3. THE AMERICANS BELIEVED THAT THEY HAD SUCCEEDED IN REASSURING HUSSEIN, BY THEIR REFERENCES TO THE NEED TO MAINTAIN QUOTE THE UNIQUE AND ENDURING CHARACTER OF JORDAN UNQUOTE THAT THEY DID NOT ACCEPT THE SHARON THESIS OF A PALESTINIAN STATE IN JORDAN.
4. THEY ACCEPTED THAT KING HUSSEIN WAS NOT GOING TO JOIN THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS BUT HAD NEVERTHELESS GIVEN HIM SATISFACTION BY REAFFIRMING THE US COMMITMENT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 I.E. WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES IN RETURN FOR PEACE. HOWELL COMMENTED THAT HE HAD HAD QUITE A STRUGGLE TO GET THIS LINE ACCEPTED IN THE US BUREAUCRACY: THE CLINCHING ARGUMENT HAD BEEN THAT 242 WAS THE FOUNDATION OF THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS AND HAD BEEN ACCEPTED AS SUCH BY BEGIN. HE ADDED THAT THE EXTENT OF POSSIBLE MINOR BORDER ADJUSTMENTS HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE KING. VELIOTES TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF FAHD'S EIGHT POINTS: THE JORDANIANS HAD MAKE KNOWN THEIR VIEWS ON THEM IN ADVANCE OF THE KING'S VISIT.
5. HOWELL SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN USEFUL DISCUSSION OF STRATEGIC ISSUES AND THAT HUSSEIN BROADLY SHARED THE ADMINISTRATION'S CONCERNS ON THIS SCORE. HE THOUGHT THAT THE JORDANIANS HAD BEEN SATISFIED BY THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED ON ARMS SUPPLIES (OF WHICH HE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE DETAILS) BOTH DURING THE KING'S VISIT AND AT THE MEETINGS OF THE US/JORDAN MILITARY COMMISSION WHICH PRECEDED IT. HE ADDED THAT THE AMERICANS HAD NO INTENTION AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT OF SUPPLYING MOBILE I-HAWK MISSILES OR ADVANCED FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. THE JORDANIANS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD HAVE TO CHOOSE THEIR MOMENT FOR PUTTING SALES PROPOSALS TO CONGRESS. THIS WOULD BE DONE WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS.

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