

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION



April 27, 1983

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan
The Royal Palace
Amman,
Jordan

Your Royal Highness,

I was sorry it was not possible for Dr. Uteibi to be at the Mexico Convention of the ISA. The proposals for a continuing seminar of scholars from the USA, the USSR and other countries was accepted by the Governing Council, together with the proposal for a facilitating service attached to it. As a result two separate disputes have been referred to us, one in Africa and one in Latin America. The idea seems to be catching on that we have to move away from confrontation processes and direct bargaining towards something that is more analytical.

This leads me to express concern and sympathy for His Majesty the King in the frustrations His Majesty must be experiencing. It is inevitable that groups such as the PLO will be hesitant about giving over their identity and accepting the non-recognition of that status they are seeking to establish. This was the reason why Ralph Bunch could never get the Cypriot parties to come together. The same people did, however, come together in London in an unofficial framework in which status was of no account because it was unofficial. We probably have to move far more in this direction, which is why the ISA has gone along with the proposals put before them.

There is another aspect of this approach. It is usually impossible to deal with a particular aspect of a total situation out of context of the whole. This is the problem of withdrawal from Lebanon. The negotiation is about one thing; but behind this negotiation there are many other issues. I am wondering whether it would be useful in the present circumstances for His Majesty to regain the initiative by convening a conference to do no more than establish who are the parties and what are the issues. This would also determine in what order these different issues should be dealt with. The discussion would clarify the issues and force some clearer thinking about them, but without entering into bargaining positions and negotiations. It would probably reveal the way in which the Soviet Union is being forced into a participant role by the very policies designed to avoid this.

The International Studies Association

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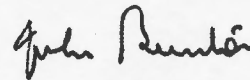
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It could be done at a level that enabled the participation of all parties. It is here that non-officials can play a part. Their ambiguous role overcomes some of the formal difficulties. The Institute could be a relevant vehicle. The ISA is, also, now in a position to take such an initiative. Perhaps a joint exercise between the ISA and the Institute would be possible. Both have sufficient contacts to ensure a full participation.

With respect & appreciation

Yours sincerely



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ISA 1983 Scholar in Residence

JWB/cbf