

But we are also convinced that even if the Arabs were more clear about their peaceful intentions, the Israelis and the Americans would probably find new obstacles to place in the way of a solution which was based on the Palestinian right to national self-determination. We'd be delighted to be proven wrong.

Nevertheless, the PLO does well to communicate to Western audiences its vision of a Middle East blessed with justice, peace and tranquility. The key dynamic in such a situation, we feel, is the nature and extent of American reciprocity. We don't expect Israelis to leap up and run for the negotiating table. But we do expect the American government to respond actively and constructively if, while it seeks to play the mediator's role, one of the protagonists proposes a process of justice and reconciliation which could lead to a stable peace.

The peace-making effort will not succeed in one fell swoop. It will come in small, incremental steps, building upon one another until there is sufficient confidence for the protagonists to take the final leap forward. Mr Abu Sharif—presumably representing the thoughts of his boss and of the PLO majority—has taken just such a step.

He has articulated with some clarity a position that the PLO and the Arab states have always preferred to convey in slightly more cryptic terms. We anxiously await a response from Washington, or from Israel. Will we hear voices from there which speak of Israelis, Palestinians and other Arabs living in peace and with equal rights? We're listening.

**Minister of Agriculture Signs Agreement with Iraq**  
*JN1806071088 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English*  
*18 Jun 88 p 3*

[Text] Amman (PETRA, J.T.)—Iraqi Minister of Agriculture Karim Hasan Rida has concluded his five-day official visit to Jordan by signing a memorandum of understanding, paving the way for greater cooperation between Jordan and Iraq in agricultural affairs.

Rida held talks with his Jordanian counterpart Marwan al-Humud and toured a number of agricultural projects in the Jordan Valley and other parts of the kingdom.

The Iraqi minister said in a statement that his country was keen on benefitting from Jordan's experiments in certain agricultural techniques such as drip irrigation and plasticulture. Al-Humud said that Jordan wanted to further strengthen its ties with Iraq in agricultural affairs and to speed up the process of economic integration among Arab countries.

He said that meetings between officials from both sides will continue to explore new areas for joint cooperation in agriculture.

The memorandum provides for an exchange of expertise and cooperation in research work and visits by specialists to promote bilateral cooperation.

It calls for an increase in cooperation in means to combat animal diseases, to set up a data bank to provide information on water, irrigation and marketing of agricultural products and to launch joint ventures that can contribute towards agricultural integration between Iraq and Jordan.

According to the memorandum, Iraq will increase its imports of Jordanian feed concentrates for poultry, and Jordan will continue to import Iraqi barley and bran and study the prospect to increase its imports of Iraqi dates.

The memorandum stressed the two countries' determination to promote their cooperation in promoting animal husbandry, to increase consultation and exchanges of veterinary vaccines and the use of treated water for irrigation.

The two sides also pledged to maintain their cooperation to implement agricultural projects at the Hammad Basin region near their common border, conduct feasibility studies on irrigation schemes in that district and initiate fisheries.

They decided to speed up work to set up a pesticides plant through the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Industry Company, to cooperate in protecting the environment, creating wild-life reserves and giving priority to one another in the importation of each others products.