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## **A Letter from Mohammad Riyad to Anwar Nusseibeh, England**

This document shows a letter from Mohammad Riyad in Bristol- England to Anwar Nusseibeh in Jerusalem.

Your Excellency!

Assalamu Aleikum wa Rahmatullah! The style of address is because I only seem to bother you with a letter when I see your family name in print & this time it is your own name appearing in a footnote (p.202) of Peter Snow's biography of King Hussein, in which he accuses you of being an intermediary for H.M. with that charming creature Golda Meir, an accusation which apparently your advocacy failed to convince him was untrue; anyhow, your name is in good company, from Abdullah onwards!

I don't know what you think of the book (apart from taking your name in vain)? I found it very interesting on the whole though I got lost in a sea of names after I got out of the period of those I had known personally such as Ibrahim Hashem, Samir Rifai & Glubb. I thought the light which is thrown on the sad Glubb incident was worth-while; it was certainly hard to understand from here at the time though it would always seem clear that it was difficult for a young king to rule in the shadow of a member of the 'Old Guard' so loved & with so much knowledge of the country's affairs.

Certainly Hussein comes out of the book as a man of tremendous courage & ability to take the right 'on the spur' decisions. It must have been very hard for him not to despair when the whole Arab world seemed to be against him & his military supplies & financial supports seemed equally insecure. Thinking back to the Mandatory days when Abdullah had a minute allowance & was permanently in the red (mainly because of his generosity to his essential Bedu supporters amongst his old friends); I remember how distressed Arthur Wauchoppe used to be when he had to scold him like a headmaster kicking off a schoolboy who has overspent his pocket money.

Particularly interesting to me were the descriptions of the wheelings & dealings of Nasser as I'd really lost sight of him after that dastardly Suez affair put an end to my M.E. dealings & I was more than busy with trying to be a parson. I'd no idea that he'd played such a role in Jordanian affairs & made himself out to be such a 'friend'!

A figure who comes out in the book much better than the impression I'd got of her was the Queen Mother: I remember once saying to Jamal Tuqan, when he was ambassador in Beirut, wasn't it silly for a poor country like Jordan to have so many expensive embassies round Europe when one central embassy, say in Paris, & a number of consulates could cope with the business & he answered 'the Queen Mother needs them for her drug-running'; & my very good friend Franciscan Fr. Eugene Hoade of Gethsemane used to sweat that he'd get Interpol onto her, a threat which eventually led to his being shot out of the country as 'persona non grata'!

Meanwhile your present governors look less healthy than usual & the return of Reagan seems to have cleared that disastrous character Kissinger to start shuttling round the M.E. again. Plus ça change plus c'est la même chose!

Meanwhile Jordan seems more peaceful & stable & there is certainly a great emphasis on archaeology; certainly on the B.B.C., tonight I hope to hear a talk about Petra (I shall never forget the dreadful drive there before the desert road was built!).

I hope all goes well with all of you.  
Yours very sincerely in the fellowship of Islam

Muhammad Riadh,

BY AIR MAIL  
AIR LETTER

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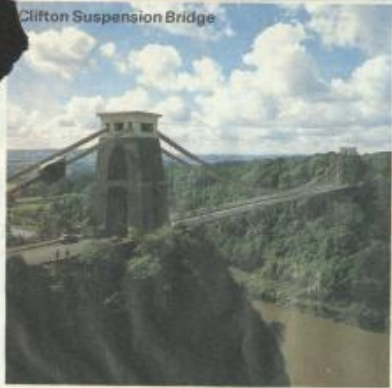


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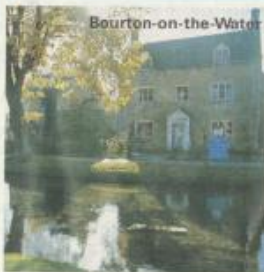
Sayyed Anwar Nusseibeh,  
49 Nablus Rd.,  
P.O.B 19/522,  
JERUSALEM  
israel.

Clifton Suspension Bridge

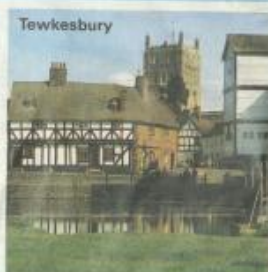


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Bourton-on-the-Water



Tewkesbury



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