

Palestinians, in an interview. His criticism of the PLO chairman focused on the Feb. 11 agreement with Hussein and

Syria, a Soviet ally and supporter of Palestinian rebels who are chal- (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

ministers and asked for their views. "Everyone spoke and the consensus on SALT-2 was to keep the restraints," a British official said.

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## Jordanian Outlines 4-Step Proposal <sup>\*</sup> Toward Direct Arab-Israeli Talks

By David B. Ottaway  
*Washington Post Service*

WASHINGTON — Jordan's foreign minister has detailed for the first time the proposal King Hussein made last week to Reagan administration officials for a direct meeting between American officials and Palestine Liberation Or-

**The Reagan administration may ask Congress for further military aid to Jordan. Page 4.**

ganization representatives who would be part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The king envisions a four-stage process leading to direct Arab-Israeli peace talks, the Jordanian minister, Taher al-Masri, said Wednesday.

The first step would be a preliminary session between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation with no PLO representatives, Mr. Masri said.

He said Hussein told the administration that Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, would be prepared then to make a formal declaration of readiness to recognize and negotiate with Israel, but would want a U.S. concession in return. The United States has refused to meet with the PLO until it recognizes Israel's right to exist.

As the concession, Jordan has asked Washington to state publicly



Taher al-Masri

that it supports "self-determination" for the Palestinians within the context of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation that the king and Mr. Arafat agreed upon Feb. 11 in a joint statement.

Details of such an exchange of statements would be the main topic of a first meeting being arranged between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Richard W. Murphy, the U.S. assistant secretary of

state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

The United States would then hold a second meeting with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that would include PLO officials. Participants would discuss the details for an international conference at which direct Arab-Israeli negotiations would take place, according to Mr. Masri.

The conference and then the direct negotiations, which Mr. Masri suggested would get under way almost immediately, would constitute the third and fourth steps of the Jordanian plan.

But he said Jordan had not yet received an answer from Washington on its idea of two preliminary meetings.

In explaining Hussein's current view of the peace process, Mr. Masri was highly optimistic about the prospects for starting a new round of Arab-Israeli talks.

"I feel the atmosphere is the same as before Sadat's trip to Jerusalem," he said, referring to the 1977 visit by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt that opened the way for the Camp David accords on Middle East peace.

"Something is going to happen," Mr. Masri added, "a breakthrough is approaching."

But the foreign minister said he (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

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