



Radio is strange, propagation and radio path to far away places sometimes has a short window and then nothing. One of those places is Amman Jordan which brings to mind JY1 His Majesty King Hussein 1935-1999. He became King at age 18.

Known as a man of peace, King Hussein ruled Jordan for 46 years, longer than any modern leader in the middle east. JY1 was given wide acclaim moving Jordan and its Arab neighbors toward peace with Israel.

Yet peace was not always in the plans as he participated in the 6 Day War, Jordan suffered heavy casualties and lost control of the West Bank and the City of East Jerusalem.

After a series of marriages JY1 tried for the 4th time and married a 26 year old American, Lisa Halaby who became Queen Noor (JY2) - They had four children and seven from his previous marriages. The King could be heard on the air with casual conversations and with schedules between his QSL manager Mary Ann WA3HUP, mostly on 20 Meters SSB. Mary Ann was a long time friend and made several trips to Amman with her husband to visit JY1. He was always a gentleman and was kind to each person he spoke with. He did not prefer to be called by Royal titles on the air, "I'M Hussein."

He operated a well equipped station at the Palace in Amman, complete with every piece of Drake gear imaginable. His QSL manager WA3HUP sent out rare and valuable mementoes of each QSO the King made on the bands.

The King was instrumental in several cases of sponsoring DX- Peditions, one rare one comes to mind from the Neutral Zone for DXCC.

A picture says a thousand words! JY1 was a Ham's Ham & he was one of us.

