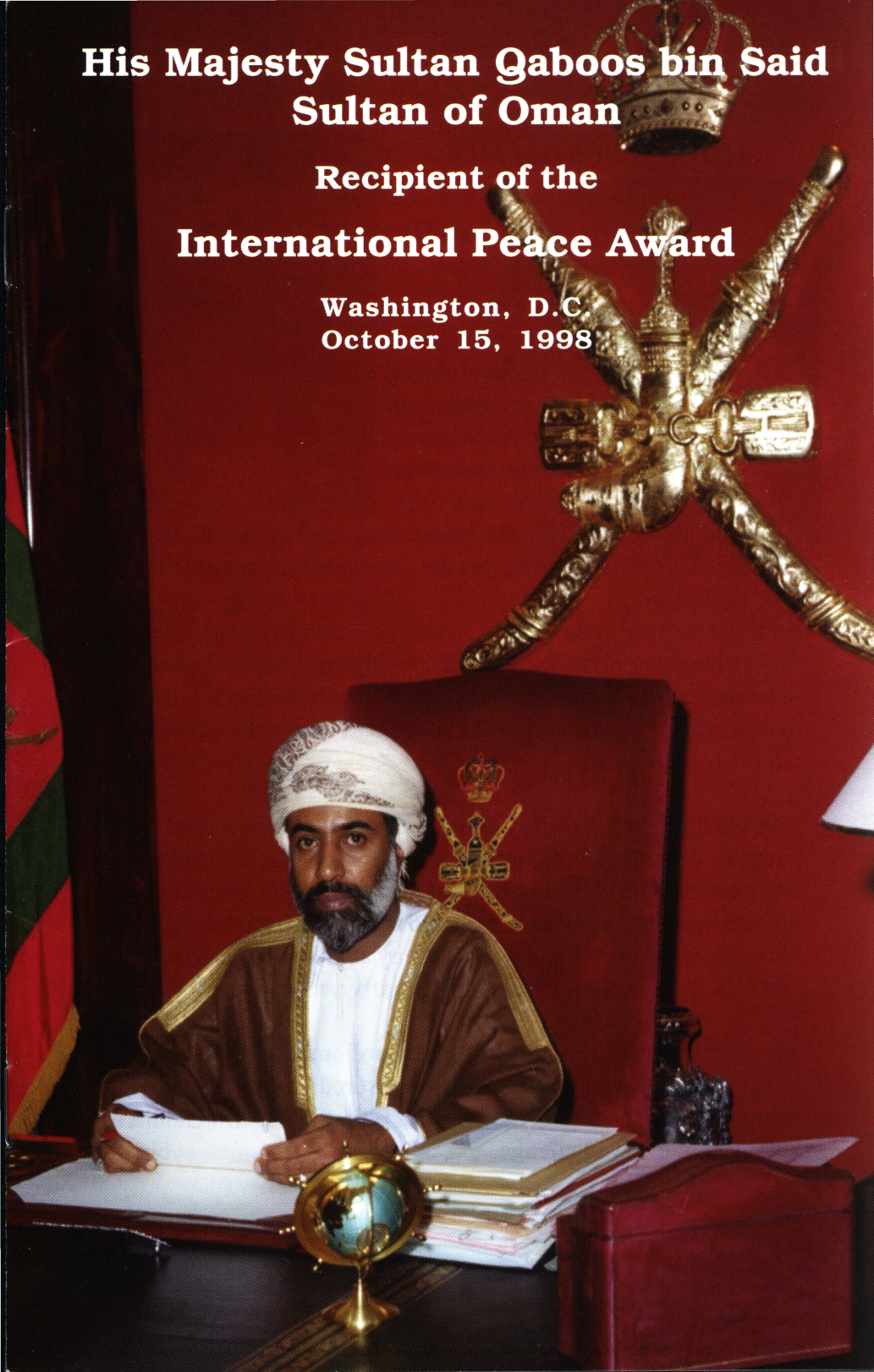


**His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said
Sultan of Oman**

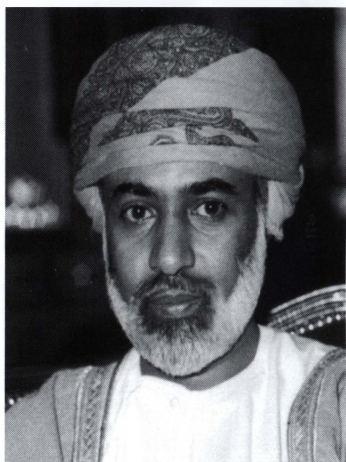
**Recipient of the
International Peace Award**

**Washington, D.C.
October 15, 1998**



***ADDRESS FROM HIS
MAJESTY
SULTAN QABOOS BIN SAID***

We believe that when nations and cultures, despite their differences, are able to communicate effectively with each other, they move naturally towards peace. We believe that humankind is inherently peace loving. And so, we also believe that all, individually and collectively, have a sacred duty to pursue the cause of peace, and that in fulfilling this duty, we help humankind to realize its destiny.



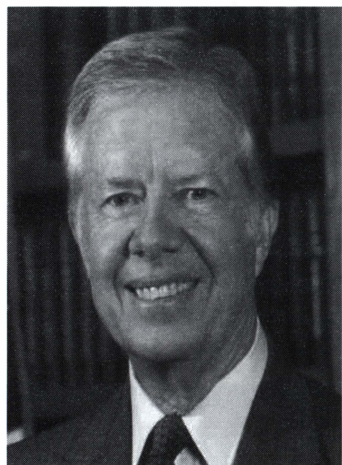
It has been our privilege to work closely with the United States for this cause. We have worked together for more than twenty years, in the search for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

We would like to thank President Carter for honoring us by making this Award. We highly value and appreciate the leadership he gave the world during his presidency. We are grateful to all of the organizations who contributed to and sponsored this Award, in particular to Dr. John Duke Anthony and the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations for their initiative.

We thank you all for your recognition of our contribution to regional and international peace. Be assured our commitment is wholehearted, and, with the gracious will of God, will endure in the face of every challenge.

***MESSAGE FROM
PRESIDENT JIMMY
CARTER***

It is a great privilege for me to present the International Peace Award to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said. For many years, I personally have admired his courageous efforts to bring peace to his region of the world. He deserves recognition and thanks, as do the people of Oman for their support of him.



His Majesty has promoted peace in many ways. On behalf of his own country, he has negotiated and settled difficult boundary disputes with all of his neighbors. He has brought Oman to a position of leadership in the United Nations and other international organizations.

His Majesty has served as a mediator for neighboring countries in conflict. I have been especially grateful for his encouragement on the Camp David Peace process. He continues to be a leader among those seeking peace between the Arab world and the nation of Israel, working for a just and final settlement that will protect the full rights of the Palestinian people.

The independent course that His Majesty has charted has been a wise one for Oman and its neighbors. He has set an example of leadership that I pray will be followed by others throughout the world.

The Sultanate of Oman

Oman, the oldest nation state in the Gulf, occupying approximately 120,900 square miles, sits at the eastern edge of the Arabian Peninsula. The northernmost tip of the country, the Musandam Peninsula, takes up the southern edge of the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf.

The Sultanate's dramatic landscape extends from the rolling dunes of the world's largest desert, the Rub al-Khali (Empty Quarter) in the west, across mountains, valleys, and coastal plains before tumbling into a scenic cascade of reddish cliffs and rock promontories abutting the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean.



*His Majesty's Naval Training Ship,
the SNV Shabab Oman*

Oman's unspoiled beauty has been the site of civilization dating from the Third Millennium B.C. Ancient records from the Assyrian and Mesopotamian Empires attest to relations with a country known as Magan, recognized today as the area surrounding and including the Omani coastal city of Sohar. Even prior to Islam, Sohar was one of the greatest ports in the Middle East. One of Oman's most legendary figures is Ahmad bin Majid, the "father of Arab navigation" and inspiration for the famed explorer Vasco de Gama's pioneering voyages in the Indian Ocean.

As recorded in the annals of such world-renowned travelers and historians as Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta, Oman has played an important role in bridging the civilizations of East and West for centuries. By the 1800s, its vast commercial empire extended from what is known today as Pakistan, down the eastern coast of Africa to the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, and enclaves along the coasts of Kenya and Tanzania.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, the Sultan of Oman, has been in office since 1970, and his family, the Al Bu Said, have been ruling Oman since 1741. Over the past twenty-eight years, Sultan Qaboos has led the Sultanate's embrace of extensive change and modernization while preserving time-honored traditions and values.

Today, Oman's thriving economy is often referred to as a model for developing nations. The Sultanate has successfully developed a wide range of economic, political, and social institutions enabling popular participation in governance and the national development process, while preserving the heritage and customs that define the Omani people.



The Center of Oman's Business District

In the run-up to the next millenium, Oman, under Sultan Qaboos' leadership, continues to advance along its path towards democratic institutions. Elections and an increasingly comprehensive consultative authority are only two among numerous other elements in a bold and innovative vision of the country's economic reforms and political liberalization. His Majesty's personal involvement in this vision, from its inception, has been unconditional, with a view to ensuring that his lasting legacy will be the continued modernization and development of Oman.

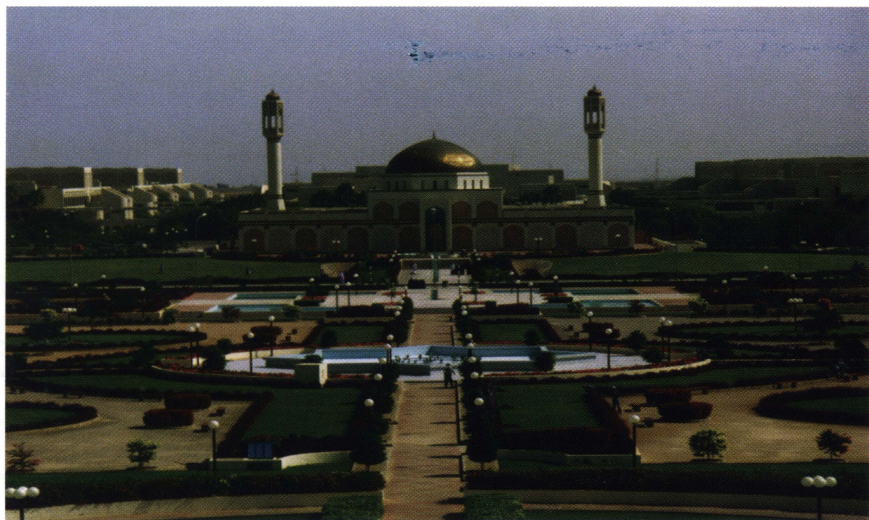


Water-falls in Salalah, Dhufar, Oman's southern province.

Salalah, Dhufar, the birthplace of His Majesty on November 18, 1940, is the second largest city in Oman after the capital, Muscat. Dhufar has been at the center of the international frankincense trade for thousands of years. Today, Salalah is a dynamic seaport destined to become a major hub for international container cargo bound for South and Southeast Asia.



The Gardens of Ayn Razay near Salalah



Modern Islamic architecture in Oman

Today, the United States and Oman continue to share many common interests and objectives, including the promotion of Middle East peace, regional stability, defense, and economic as well as social development. On June 4, 1980, these interests attained concrete expression upon the establishment of the U.S.-Oman Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation.

The U.S.-Oman relationship stands as a model of how free peoples, desirous of improving the quality of their citizens' lives and respecting others' rights, and determined to maintain their territorial integrity and political independence, can work together for their mutual benefit, in keeping with the spirit and vision imbedded in the Treaty of 1833.

The International Peace Award

In 1998, an assemblage of 33 American universities and non-governmental organizations chose His Majesty Sultan Qaboos as the recipient of the International Peace Award in recognition of his distinguished contributions in support of regional and international peace.

Regional Collective Defense

- Oman played a major role at the 1984 Summit in Kuwait and thereafter in persuading the other GCC members to establish a joint military force, comprised of units representing all six GCC countries.
- In response to the 1990-1991 Kuwait crisis, the GCC served as a rallying point for a coalition of 34 countries that reversed the Iraqi aggression and restored Kuwait's national sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity.

The 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq War

- Oman's and its fellow GCC members' collective defense coalition served as a nucleus around which 24 nations gathered to exert an all-out effort to end the war.
- Oman served as mediator between Iran and the United States in the aftermath of the USS *Vincennes*'s accidental attack on an Iranian civil airliner in which 299 Iranian passengers were killed.



Shoreline in the Capitol area of Oman

Afghanistan

- During the 1979-1988 Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, Oman played a major role in assisting the Afghan opposition.
- Oman cooperated with American and British forces in Operation Bright Star, joint military exercises designed to demonstrate firm resolve against any further Soviet infiltration.



Border Negotiations

- Oman is the first and only GCC country to have settled borders with all its neighbors.

Middle East Peace

- Subsequent to the Camp David Accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, Oman was the only Arab country, other than Morocco and Sudan, not to sever diplomatic ties with Egypt.

Organizations Honoring His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said

*Americans for Middle East Understanding
American-Mideast Educational & Training Services
American Muslim Council
American Near East Refugee Aid
American University
Arab American Institute
The Baker Institute
The Carter Center
Council for National Interest
Foundation for Middle East Peace
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
The Kennedy Center
Meridian International Center
Middle East Institute
Middle East Policy Council
National Association of Arab Americans
National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations
National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce
The Nixon Institute
Partners for Peace
Search for Common Ground
United States Air Force Academy
United States Naval Academy
University of Arkansas
University of California at Irvine
University of Duquesne
University of North Texas
University of Pennsylvania
U.S.-GCC Corporate Cooperation Committee
Villanova University
Virginia Military Institute*

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