Pat Tours Mosque--'Overwhelmed

Damascus

Pat Nixon put on a black robe and a pair of slippers to tour the ancient Ommayyad mosque yesterday and said she could imagine praying there five times a day.

Pointing to the minaret, a guide told Mrs. Nixon that many believe that when Jesus Christ returns to earth, "it will be here."

"Well, we certainly need to be saved," she said with a smile.

She covered her pink and white checked frock with the black robe and exchanged her shoes for a pair of sandals before entering the Islamic landmark. The sightseeing tour, which took place shortly before the Nixons flew on to Tel Aviv, included both the Azem Palace, now a mu_{τ} seum filled with antiquities, and the mosque, which was built in 705 A.D.

"I am overwhelmed with the beauty of it," she said. "to think that it was built so long ago and has been preserved through the years."

Asked if she could imagine going to the mosque to pray five times a day as Moslems do, she replied:

"Yes, I can," she replied. "I think it's good to have quiet and prayer and love in your heart. I think this hate is just uncalled for."

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