

JUN 19 1974

## Pat Nixon Tours Ruins

Jerash, Jordan

Pat Nixon toured ancient Roman ruins near the Arab city of Jerash yesterday, winding up a "busy but thrilling Middle East tour."

Despite heavy security precautions throughout the five-nation tour and the possibility of terrorist attacks, Mrs. Nixon said she was never frightened.

"I've traveled to 80 countries," she said. "I've never had a bit of fear."

Mrs. Nixon and Queen Alyia of Jordan were escorted by police cars riding before and behind their car and plain-clothes security men. Soldiers with guns perched on vantage points amid the rocks of Jerash as the first ladies walked for an hour in the hot sun, looking at the dusty, rock-strewn ruins in the remote, quiet mountains of Gilead.

She walked down the Street of Columns, where a guide pointed out the grooves of chariot wheels in

the stone roadway and into the colonnaded forum filled with Boy Scouts who shouted a greeting.

When a guide worried about Mrs. Nixon climbing the steep steps to the temple ruins and walking amid the rubble, she laughingly told him: "I've climbed all over the world."

Mrs. Nixon said the ruins reminded her of those she had seen in Rome, but "I didn't think these would be this well preserved."

"I can see the tourists flocking here," she said.

As she left the ruins, Mrs. Nixon stopped at a souvenir stall and bought ancient coins found in the neighboring fields.

"It's fun to have a few treasures from a country to remember the trip," she said.

The queen bought Mrs. Nixon a red and white Bedouin headdress, and the Jordanian government gave her two huge red velvet box-

es filled with old coins, Byzantine and Greek glassware, a Bedouin coin necklace and a traditional embroidered dress worn by Palestinian women.

*Associated Press*





PAT NIXON AT JERASH RUINS  
She held flowers given her by a guide

AP Wirephoto