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IN SAUDI ARABIA

Channel 2 KATU-TV 3/28/84 5:45

Tracy Barry

The Oregon trade delegation led by Governor Vic Atiyeh is in Damascus, Syria this evening after spending a brief two days in Jeddah Saudi Arabia.

While there the Governor did everything from talking to the local media to shopping at the old market place.

Senior Political Reporter Lisa Stark is travelling with the Governor and takes a look at the stop in Jeddah.

Lisa Stark

The Saudi media has shown lots of interest in the Governor's visit here. Since Atiyeh is the only American governor of purely Arab decent.

One morning in Jeddah, Atiyeh held a local news conference, the Saudi media wanted to know a little more about this place called Oregon.

Reporter

(through translator) Can you give us some information about the status of the State of Oregon as far as the significance in matters of trade of (mumble). compared to other states?

Gov. Atiyeh

Oregon is, the population of Oregon is 1 percent of the population of the United States.

Lisa Stark

The governor talked about wheat exports, joking that now that the Saudi's are self sufficient in wheat production they may try to export to Oregon.

On the touchy subject of Palestians rights, Atiyeh spoke his mind.

Gov. Atiyeh

The question of a settlement for Palestians is key to settling the unrest in the middle east.

Lisa Stark

Atiyeh also said that peace is achieved through understanding and that he hopes the delegation carries a message of understanding back to Oregon.

(more)

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Lisa Stark
(cont.)

Trade delegation members would also like to bring back some business deals. With that in mind the group visited the Jeddah food facilities.

On a whirlwind driving tour the Governor learned that this port handles over half of the countries imports and can dock 50 ships at a time.

After the port tour, the Governor took some time to relax.

Here in the old (mumble) or marketplace, Governor took some time out to play tourist and to do a little shopping.

Here at the Suk you can barter. A few prices are fixed, gold is a good buy, you pay by the ounce. And you will find nothing less than 18 karat.

The governor also stopped by the shops selling worry beads but there was no need to buy, Atiyeh had already been given his own set of beads by a Saudi prince.

For the Governor and his group there was little chance to browse. It was nearly time for the noon prayer when all shops in this Muslem country must close.

In Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Lisa Stark Channel 2 News.

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