

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 28, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: *The Honorable* ~~MR.~~ JOHN O. MARSH JR.

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST; ENCLOSURES A COPY OF THE LETTER HE WROTE TO PRESIDENT BUSH ON THAT TOPIC

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	90/08/28	<i>JS A</i>	<i>90/09/04</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

former Secy of Army

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:      *DISPOSITION      *OUTGOING      *
*                  *                  *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED      *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM      *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *OF SIGNER          *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE     *C-COMPLETED      *CODE = A            *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED      *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                  *OUTGOING            *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                  *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE      *                  *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY      *                  *                      *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

Leg Council to Secretary
DOD

or

Secy of Army

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 4, 1990

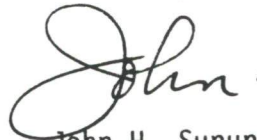
Dear Jack,

Thanks for your note and for sharing with me your letter to the President regarding the formation of a private sector citizens group to address the public concerns surrounding our actions in the Middle East.

I appreciate you bringing this to my attention.

Hope all is well with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John".

John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff

The Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
Hazel and Thomas
Post Office Box 12001
Falls Church, Virginia 22042

170191

LAW OFFICES

Hazel & Thomas

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

WASHINGTON OFFICE
SUITE 400

2001 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-7000

LEESBURG OFFICE

116-G EDWARDS FERRY ROAD, N.E.
P. O. BOX 87
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA 22075
(703) 777-6777

ALEXANDRIA OFFICE

510 KING STREET, SUITE 200
P. O. BOX 820
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313
(703) 836-8400

FAIRFAX OFFICE

3110 FAIRVIEW PARK DRIVE, SUITE 1400
P.O. BOX 12001
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22042
(703) 641-4200
FAX (703) 641-4340

RICHMOND OFFICE

411 EAST FRANKLIN STREET, SUITE 600
P. O. BOX 3-K
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23206
(804) 344-3400

MARYLAND OFFICE

SUITE 2100
120 EAST BALTIMORE STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202
(301) 783-3500

WINCHESTER OFFICE

107 NORTH KENT STREET, FOURTH FLOOR
P.O. BOX 2740
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601
(703) 665-0050

August 27, 1990

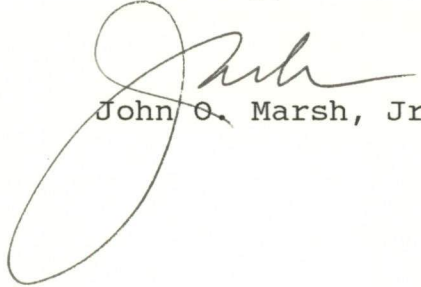
The Honorable John Sununu
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear John:

This may be of special interest to you. You'll note that I have discussed it with President Ford who thinks it's something that might be worthy of consideration if we can in fact get key Democrats to join with Republicans in the effort.

There was a similar program for the Panama Canal Treaty. I can mention to you certain factors that involve how the White House relates to such an effort, should the President be interested in pursuing it.

Sincerely,



John O. Marsh, Jr.

JOM:sjr
Enclosure

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August 27, 1990

The Honorable George Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The subject of this letter has been discussed with President Ford who thought it would be helpful to bring it to your attention for follow-up, if you concur.

First, I want to commend you, and those working with you, for the exemplary way you have conducted United States efforts in the current crisis in the Gulf. Your successful endeavors to bring to bear diplomatic, economic and military means have been extraordinary. These efforts have gained the respect and support of Americans across the political spectrum. It is vital this well-deserved support continue.

On Friday I received a call from a person long active in what would be clearly the liberal wing of the Democratic party. He wanted me to know he supported your efforts in this crisis. This support he said existed to an extent greater than you might suspect in what might be considered the Democratic "left." Indeed it was his view that a number of responsible and respected liberals could be enlisted to publicly speak out with conservatives in support of your policies and the course you are pursuing.

However, it was also his view this support must be pulled together, or at least informally organized, to develop public opinion, not just for the short term, but possibly for a sustained period. To this end his suggestion was to organize in the private sector a broadly-based citizens coalition. This coalition would be composed of leaders from many fields - Republicans and Democrats - whose purpose would be to educate and focus our citizens on our goals in the Middle East situation. It would be a bi-partisan effort similar to other coalition

The Honorable George Bush
August 27, 1990
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endeavors established in the past to build unity in pursuit of national goals. For example, in World War II, and later in support of the Atlantic Alliance.

In an honorary leadership role might be former national leaders, who are joined by educators, and representatives from business and labor, together with retired members of the diplomatic corps and military community. I would also add individuals from the political field who have a record in bipartisan efforts, such as Bob Strauss, Howard Baker, Clark Clifford, or Mel Laird. Lud Ashley might have suggestions on this matter. Because of the violence being done to the rule of law, distinguished members of the American Bar versed in national security matters such as Medal of Freedom holder Morry Leibman should be enlisted to assist in forming a blue ribbon panel.

Already, as you know better than I, we are beginning to hear the distant rumble of the drums of dissent, which will no doubt become louder as the crisis is prolonged. Therefore, it is even more imperative our citizens clearly understand the vital interests at stake, as well as the necessity for the United States to assume a leadership role in meeting these international responsibilities, and why we must stay the course you have charted.

A citizens group organized in the private sector, sustained by funds it raises on its own behalf, but enjoying the quiet support of the administration to achieve a mutual goal, can assist in the vital task of building and sustaining public opinion. Such an endeavor is not unique but has been done before. It is needed now. I believe there are many Americans from all walks of life who would be willing to help because they want you and the Country to succeed in meeting this critical challenge.

In addition to President Ford, I have sent a copy of this letter to John Sununu, Brent Scowcroft and Boyden Gray.

Sincerely,



John O. Marsh, Jr.

JOM:sjr

cc: The Honorable Gerald R. Ford