

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

smg 163
C0001-07

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 04, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DONALD E. MILLER

SUBJECT: URGES RESTRAINT WITH REGARD TO THE CRISIS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
SHIRLEY GREEN		ORG	90/09/04	SB	90/09/05
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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REFERRAL NOTE:					
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COMMENTS: HAND DELIVERED TO OFFICE

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                        *                        *CORRESPONDENCE:   *
*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.

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Church of the Brethren General Board

1451 Dundee Avenue Elgin, Illinois 60120-1694 708 742 5100



Shirley Green
August 29, 1990

Church of the Brethren

President George H. W. Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As one of the historic peace churches and in consonance with many people in our country, the Church of the Brethren is deeply concerned about the volatile developments in the Middle East, especially the crisis precipitated by the violation of the sovereignty of Kuwait by the military forces of Iraq. The clash of strategic and economic interests and the conflicting claims of Palestinians and Israelis in this region combine to make it an area fraught with tension and a high risk for war.

The massive military buildup of US military forces in that region appears to us, however, not only to be a reaction out of proportion to the immediate threat but also ill advised before other diplomatic efforts were exhausted, especially those by the Arab states. It would appear to us that our government has placed a higher priority on protecting the undisturbed flow of oil for our own economic interests than in recognizing the politics and valuing the relationships of our Arab neighbors in that part of the world.

We are deeply concerned about and fear the possibility of war in the region; a war that will be too great for the world to bear, consuming many lives and resources. We are also concerned for those who are being held against their will in Kuwait and Iraq and those who have been displaced and become refugees because of this crisis. We raise concerns as well about the consequences of the complete embargo being imposed on Iraq which prevents the passage of food and medical supplies.

We urge you, therefore, Mr. President, to use restraint as well as the enormous powers entrusted to you as president to de-escalate the tensions and confrontation in the area rather than to escalate or intensify them. We urge you to enter into talks with Iraq, using the good offices of the United Nations. We believe in you and in our country as being capable of enabling peace in this situation. Yet it would appear as if the world community, seeing you in another light, is losing confidence in the peaceful intentions of our country.

President George H. W. Bush
August 19, 1990
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We pray for peace. We pray for you that your leadership may bring a peace to the Middle East that is just for our nation, for the Arab peoples, and for the whole world.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Miller

Donald E. Miller
General Secretary

c: Secretary of State James A. Baker III
Senate President Dan Quayle
Speaker of the House Thomas S. Foley
United States Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering