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November 18, 1991

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President George Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Arab American community generally, and the Palestinian Arab American community specifically, please accept our sincerest appreciation for the meeting with us on November 15 regarding the Middle East peace process.

Secretary Baker summed it up best when he and I chatted briefly on October 10, during the latest round of negotiations in Washington with the Palestinian delegation. After I mentioned to him that I had the privilege of chairing the Arab Americans for Bush-Quayle '88 Campaign Committee, he responded, "I bet you all think it was worth it." Indeed, we do.

No President has approached the complex issues surrounding the Arab-Israeli dispute in as balanced, knowledgeable and effective a manner. No President has spent as much time and energy on the Middle East. We in the Arab American community are very grateful.

There were so many issues to discuss with you in our meeting and so little time. However, please know that we deeply appreciate your attention to the cause of the Palestinians and the Middle East peace process. Your focus, and that of Secretary Baker, have rendered within reach a goal with which all of your predecessors have grappled. You have already achieved a meeting with all the parties - something which eluded all of your predecessors, including President Reagan, whom I had the privilege of serving as Solicitor of Labor, and on whose reelection campaigns I was privileged to serve.

Again, many thanks to you and your terrific staff - from John Sununu to Bobbie Kilberg - for allowing and including me in

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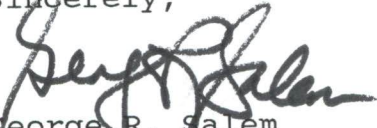
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this meeting. As the only Palestinian American to have been nominated by a President and confirmed by the Senate in the history of our great nation, I was deeply moved by the opportunity to meet with you on the peace process. I hope we have the opportunity to communicate or meet again soon.

Sincerely,



George R. Salem

GRS:rpl

cc: Chief of Staff John Sununu
Bobbie G. Kilberg