

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

C0074

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 07, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ARLEN SPECTER

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN ON STATEMENTS THAT APPEAR
TO BE PUTTING TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON ISRAEL FOR
PEACE SETTLEMENT

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
FREDERICK MCCLURE		ORG	89/04/07	FM	A 89/04/28
REFERRAL NOTE:		I	89/05/10		
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1220

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

*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 *			*

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.

April 28, 1989

Dear Senator Specter:

Thank you for your April 5 letter to the President regarding Prime Minister Shamir's recent visit here. We appreciate having your views on our relations with Israël.

You should know that the President believes that the meetings with Prime Minister Shamir went extremely well. At the outset of the visit, the President told the Prime Minister that the United States and Israel are close friends, strategic partners, and allies. The President said that our support for Israel was clear, consistent and unwavering. He reaffirmed his personal commitment to the close and deep relationship between our nations and repeated his intention to see this relationship grow and flourish. The President also used the occasion of his public departure statement to make the same points.

There was also progress in the discussions on the peace process. Prime Minister Shamir presented some interesting ideas and there was a fruitful exchange of views on how to improve the environment between Israel and the Palestinians. We agreed to look more closely at the question of whether elections in the Occupied Territories can be properly designed as a first step in a process leading to negotiations over the final status of the Territories. The President and the Prime Minister agreed that the United States and Israel should continue their close partnership in the search for peace.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Arlen Specter
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

✓ FDM:KRJ:
cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4/28

TO:

Gordon

FROM: KATHY RATTÉ JAFFKE
Office of Legislative Affairs

*NSC provided this
language re: Shamir visit.*

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 24, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR KATHY RATTE JAFFKE

FROM: RICHARD N. HAASS 

SUBJECT: Draft Response to Senator Specter

In response to your request, attached is a brief draft text for inclusion in a letter to Senator Specter, responding to his concerns about our relations with Israel and the visit of Prime Minister Shamir.

Attachment

Tab I Draft Letter to Senator Specter



1386

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR:

RICHARD HAASS

FROM:

KATHY RATTE JAFFKE *Ky*

SUBJECT:

Prime Minister Shamir Visit

As I mentioned to you this morning, the President received a letter from Senator Arlen Specter the day after his meeting with Prime Minister Shamir. Senator Specter commented on statements made by the President prior to Shamir's visit and stated that he hoped President Bush would "be in a position to say something more positive about Israel" after meeting with Prime Minister Shamir.

I appreciate your offer to provide me with a short draft response that would be appropriate for Fred McClure to send back to the Senator.

Thanks again for your assistance.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 5, 1989

Enclure
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Since I personally know of your deep concern for Israel's interests in the Mid-East peace process, I had decided not to write when I read the statements attributed to you yesterday, especially the one concerning ending Israel's "occupation" of Palestinian land.

After discussing the matter with colleagues and hearing many complaints from constituents, I think it important to express to you my opinion that your statement appears to be putting too much pressure on Israel.

I know from both your public and private comments that you are striving very hard for the appropriate balance and to achieve peace in the Mid-East; but I thought it worthwhile for you to have my thinking on this subject as you prepare for your meeting with Prime Minister Shamir and for your public statement which will follow such a meeting.

I am taking the liberty of sending copies of this letter to Secretary of State Baker and Chief of Staff Sununu.

Thanks again for including me on your recent trip to Lancaster. I enjoyed the chance to visit with you in between the speeches and meetings.

My best to you and Mrs. Bush.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

AS:gmc

I hope you will be in a position to say something more positive about Israel after your meeting with P.M. Shamir.

*DR. Richard Haass
X 6900
Rm 351*

DRAFT LETTER TO SENATOR SPECTER

We appreciate having your views on our relations with Israel. You should know that the President believes that the meetings with Prime Minister Shamir went extremely well. At the outset of the visit, the President told the Prime Minister that the United States and Israel are close friends, strategic partners, and allies. The President said that our support for Israel was clear, consistent and unwavering. He reaffirmed his personal commitment to the close and deep relationship between our nations and repeated his intention to see this relationship grow and flourish. The President also used the occasion of his public departure statement to make the same points.

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