

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

C0074

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 03, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. J. BARRY SHATZER

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES COPY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS BY THE  
PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF  
EAST IOWA, DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH THE CURRENT  
STATUS OF THE ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN ISSUE AS \*

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) |                | ACTION<br>ACT CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C<br>COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| SICHAN SIV                              |                | ORG                | 89/06/05         |              | C 89/06/06                   |
| PL KILB                                 | REFERRAL NOTE: | A                  | 89/06/07         |              | C 89/06/19                   |
| PL DeCamp                               | REFERRAL NOTE: | A                  | 89/06/19         |              | C 89/07/03                   |
| NSC Welch                               | REFERRAL NOTE: | A                  | 89/06/19         |              | C 89/07/11                   |
| DOJ                                     | REFERRAL NOTE: | A                  | 89/07/13         |              | A 89/07/18                   |

COMMENTS: \* WELL AS THE U.S. ROLE IN IT

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL 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.

THE PRESBYTERY OF EAST IOWA

41837

1700 First Avenue  
P.O. Box 3068  
Iowa City, IA 52244-3068  
(319) 354-9220



Reverend Gary D. Torrens, D. Min.  
Executive Presbyter

Reverend Douglas A. Wilson D. Min.  
Associate Executive  
for Congregational Life

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

8916242

'89 JUL-13 3:22 PM

May 12, 1989

Dear Mr. President:

The Peacemaking Committee of the Presbytery of East Iowa is deeply concerned with the current status of the Israeli/Palestinian issue as well as the United States' role in it. Out of that concern the Presbytery of East Iowa used the enclosed questionnaire on the Middle East at its April 25, 1989 meeting. 81 questionnaires were returned with the indicated results.

In case you are not familiar with our Presbytery, we are a group of 87 Presbyterian churches with about 21,500 members in 20 counties in southeast Iowa. Presbytery meetings are attended by all clergy of the Presbytery as well as by representatives from each church who are elected from the governing board of the local church. Therefore the people who filled out this questionnaire are leaders not only in their local church, but in most cases in their communities as well.

We, the Peacemaking Committee of the Presbytery of East Iowa hope that you will hear the conclusions we believe are contained in this questionnaire:

1. It is clear that American opinion is shifting from uncritical support of Israel and its policies to an awareness that the Palestinian's rights need to become a higher priority than they have been to this point.
2. We very strongly believe that the U.S. government should work for peace in the Middle East, this would include continuing talks with the P.L.O and sponsoring an international conference with the probable goal of a Palestinian State on the West Bank and Gaza.
3. The U.S. should encourage Israel to ease the force it is using against the uprising and consider cutting aid to Israel because of its treatment of the Palestinians.
4. Due to uncertainty about the sincerity of either side at the negotiating table, the U.S. should do whatever it can to be sure that both sides are dealing in "good faith".

We offer the survey results to you in the interest of reaching a just resolution to the Israeli/Palestinian dilemma.

Sincerely,

*J. Barry Shatzer*  
J. Barry Shatzer

For the Peacemaking Committee,  
The Presbytery of East Iowa

QUESTIONNAIRE WILL BE COLLECTED DURING THE APRIL PRESBYTERY MEETING

QUESTIONNAIRE  
Israeli/Palestinian Peace  
April, 1989

Respondent Profile: 56 Male 24 Female (One did not answer)

Of voting age? 77 Yes      No (four did not answer)

1. Should the U.S. government do more to try to bring about peace between Israel and the Palestinians? 69 Yes 7 No 3 Not sure
2. The force that Israel has used to try to end the Palestinian uprising is: 59 too great 8 about right 3 too little 11 not sure.
3. Do you think there should be a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza alongside Israel?  
53 Yes 6 No 21 Not sure
4. Was it a right decision for the United States to open talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization? 74 Yes 1 No 6 Not sure
5. Is Israel sincere about negotiating peace with the Palestinians?  
7 Yes 27 No 47 Not sure
6. Is the Palestine Liberation Organization sincere about negotiating peace with Israel?  
17 Yes 9 No 53 Not sure
7. Should United States aid to Israel be cut because of Israel's treatment of the Palestinians? 42 Yes 18 No 21 Not sure
8. Should there be an international conference on peace in the Middle East?  
70 Yes 2 No 7 Not sure
9. During the past year, has your attitude toward the Palestine Liberation Organization become:  
42 more favorable 11 less favorable or 26 remained the same?
10. During the past year, has your attitude toward the government of Israel become:  
4 more favorable 54 less favorable or 23 remained about the same?

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8916242

Date July 20, 1989

For: Mr. Philip Hughes  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President George Bush From: Mr. J. Barry Shatzer  
Date: May 12, 1989 Subject: Questionnaire results  
by the Peacemaking Committee of the Presbytery of East Iowa.  
Referral Dated: July 13, 1989 ID# 041837  
(if any)

       The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State

Action Taken:

       A draft reply is attached.  
       A draft reply will be forwarded.  
       A translation is attached.  
XXXX An information copy of a direct reply is attached.  
       We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.  
       The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.  
       Other (see remarks).

Remarks:

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

*William A. Evans*  
for Director  
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 18, 1989

Mr. J. Barry Shatzer  
The Presbytery of East Iowa  
1700 First Avenue, P.O. Box 3068  
Iowa City, Iowa 52244-3068

Dear Mr. Shatzer:

I have been asked to respond to your May 12 letter on behalf of President Bush. Thank you for relating to us the results of your questionnaire, and letting us know the views of some of your members.

As Secretary Baker said in his speech before the American Israel Public Affairs Committee on May 22, we believe that the Israeli Government's May 14 elections proposal, and not an international conference, offers the best hope for progress in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It has the potential to launch a political process which could lead to negotiations for interim, and then permanent, status for the West Bank and Gaza. We have undertaken a vigorous diplomatic effort with the Palestinians, the Arab states, our European allies, and the Soviet Union to persuade them to say yes to peace by agreeing to move forward to elections and negotiations.

We will continue our effort to help ensure that the peace process moves toward a successful outcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John L. Hirsch".

John L. Hirsch  
Director  
Office of Israel and  
Arab-Israeli Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

8916242

'89 JUL-13 3:22 PM

JULY 13, 1989

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 041837

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 12, 1989

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. J. BARRY SHATZER  
THE PRESBYTERY OF EAST IOWA  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
POST OFFICE BOX 3068  
IOWA CITY IA 52244

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES COPY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS BY THE  
PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF  
EAST IOWA, DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH THE CURRENT  
STATUS OF THE ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN ISSUE AS  
WELL AS THE U. S. ROLE IN IT

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE