

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 27, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI IRVING GREENBERG

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING STATEMENTS BY THE
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE ON THE
ISSUE OF EAST JERUSALEM

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
SARAH DECAMP		ORG	90/03/27		C 90/04/02
99 D05	REFERRAL NOTE:				
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500 4400

PL 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.

UNCLASSIFIED

S/S# 9008191
DATE June 26, 1990

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

For: Mr. William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: President Bush

FROM: Rabbi Irving Greenberg, President
The National Jewish Center for Learning and
Leadership

DATE: March 20, 1990

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Regarding Jerusalem

WH Referral Dated: April 4, 1990
NSC ID# (if any): 126843

 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

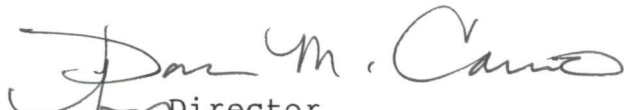
XXX Information copy of a direct reply is attached

 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:


Director
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 22, 1990

Rabbi Irving Greenberg
The National Jewish Center
for Learning and Leadership
47 West 34th Street
2nd Floor
New York, NY 10001

Dear Rabbi Greenberg:

I have been asked to reply to your letter to President Bush expressing concern regarding Jerusalem. I sincerely regret the long delay in this response but welcome the opportunity to restate U.S. policy about the city.

We are aware of the great significance which Jerusalem has for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. As such, access to the holy sites must be ensured for people of all faiths.

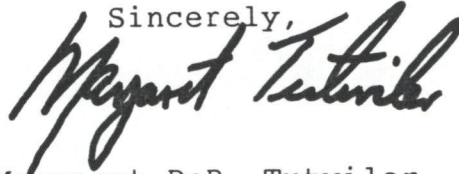
It has long been our policy that Jerusalem must remain undivided, with its ultimate status to be decided through negotiations. There is no question that negotiations about Jerusalem would be facilitated if we were well along on the path to peace, and thus there is no intention now to focus on the final status of Jerusalem.

In the meantime, all sides should avoid unilateral acts or unilateral assertions of rights that might exacerbate local tensions or make it more difficult to make progress in the peace process. All people in Jerusalem ought to uphold and promote comity in the city by not acting in ways that would prejudice prospects for the peace process. As recent events in the city have demonstrated, the real question is not an abstract one of rights, but rather how those rights are implemented.

Now that a new government has been formed in Israel, we will continue our peace efforts. The Administration is prepared to assist the parties in the Middle East toward

attainment of a just and durable peace. We remain strongly committed to the security of Israel and to the search for peace--two objectives which we believe go hand in hand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Margaret Tutwiler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Margaret" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Tutwiler".

Margaret DeB. Tutwiler
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
and Department Spokesman

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

APRIL 4, 1990

9008191

'90 APR-10 10:34 PM

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 126843

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 20, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: RABBI IRVING GREENBERG
PRESIDENT
THE NATIONAL JEWISH CENTER FOR
LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP
47 WEST 34TH STREET
2ND FLOOR
NEW YORK NY 10001

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING STATEMENTS BY THE
PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE ON THE
ISSUE OF EAST JERUSALEM

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

126843

S. DeLong

March 20, 1990



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Center for Learning
And Leadership

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The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As one who supports the peace process and hopes that a settlement will be worked out which will involve return of territories for peace, I write to express my deep concern about the recent expressions by yourself and by the Secretary of State on the matter of East Jerusalem. Respectfully the settlements are not an obstacle for peace. There is no reason why Israel should not return the land on which settlements exist. In a true peace, Jews can live under Arab autonomy or Arab sovereignty just as a substantial number of Arabs live under the sovereignty of the State of Israel which has a Jewish majority.

However, the issue of Jerusalem goes far beyond the issue of settlement. For the twenty years that Jerusalem was controlled by Jordan, Jews were prohibited access and all religions other than Islam suffered discrimination. The overwhelming consensus of the Israeli population, the Jewish community of North America and people of good will throughout the world is that this condition should never be allowed to recur. Israel guarantees the free access of all and provides for proper respect for all religions equally and jointly in the Holy City.

Of course, the administration is concerned for Arab emotional attachments to Jerusalem and the symbolic significance of the city. There is every reason to believe that in a serious peace negotiation, provision will be made for those needs as well. Mayor Teddy Kollek made excellent suggestions as to how Jerusalem could serve as capital for both groups. Others undoubtedly can be developed.

Since the United States is committed to boundary adjustments and since boundary adjustments themselves require some genuine Arab acceptance of peace and of the right of Israel to exist in that part of the Middle East, it is particularly objectionable to raise questions about Jewish residence in East Jerusalem. The vast majority of those settlers are within a ten mile radius of the old border of pre-1967. Certainly that is well within the parameters of a reasonable boundary adjustment especially in light of the aggressive invasions and attempts to



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The President
March 20, 1990

2

destroy Israel which preceded the 1967 and 1975 settlements.

By clouding the issue of Jerusalem, additional burdens have been created that cause a backlash in the State of Israel against the positive election proposals and the desire to find a way to negotiate with the Arabs. Such language also arouses false hopes on the Arab side that they can eliminate all Jewish settlements anywhere. Such a conception encourages irredentist attitudes and denial of dignity and the right of the State of Israel to exist in the Middle East.

I urge you to put the peace process back on track and to continue your record of fine support for the State of Israel and for peace by removing Jerusalem from the table and withdrawing the implication that the settlements are the primary obstacle to peace.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Irving Greenberg", written over the typed name.

Rabbi Irving Greenberg

President

IG:blm