

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

CO 074

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 28, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MARVIN ASCHENDORF

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S
STATEMENT ABOUT JERUSALEM AND POSSIBLE SHIFT
IN MIDDLE EAST POLICY

		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	90/03/28		C 90/04/02
99 D05	REFERRAL NOTE:	R	90/04/03		A 90/09/06
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4400 4690

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# 9007578
DATE July 9, 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: Marvin Aschendorf, Executive Director
American Friends of S.H.A.M.I.R.

DATE: March 26, 1990

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Regarding Jerusalem

WH Referral Dated: April 4, 1990
NSC ID# (if any): 127379

_____ 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

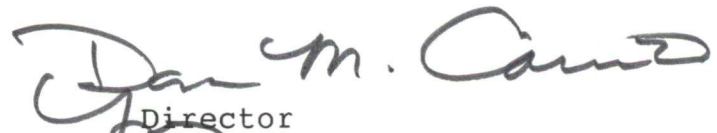
XXX Information copy of a direct reply is attached

_____ 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

30

WHITE HOUSE

90 JUL 10 A 6 : 31

SITUATION ROOM

RECEIVED

90 JUL 10 A 6 : 52



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 6, 1990

Marvin Aschendorf, Executive Director
American Friends of S.H.A.M.I.R.
15 East 26th Street
New York, NY 10010

Dear Mr. Aschendorf:

I have been asked to reply to your letter to President Bush expressing concern about his remarks 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,

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

S/S-9007578

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL

APRIL 4, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 127379
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 26, 1990
TO: PRESIDENT BUSH
FROM: MR. MARVIN ASCHENDORF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN
FRIENDS OF S.H.A.M.I.R.
THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH
PROFESSIONALS FROM THE SOVIET UNION
15 EAST 26 STREET
SUITE 1302
NEW YORK NY 10010

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S
STATEMENT ABOUT JERUSALEM AND POSSIBLE SHIFT
IN MIDDLE EAST POLICY

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

127379



American Friends of S.H.A.M.I.R.

The Association of Jewish Professionals from the Soviet Union
15 East 26 Street, Suite 1302 • New York, N.Y. 10010 • (212) 689-2170

11-E
S. DeCamp

MARVIN ASCHENDORF
Executive Director

March 26, 1990

President George Bush
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter. As a true Reagan Republican and strong supporter of American policy throughout the world, I must take umbrage at what I feel has been your gradual shift in Middle East policy.

end
To many, your latest statement concerning Jerusalem has been a shock. I rather see it as the blossoming of an attitude. Enclosed you will find a photocopy of a letter which you sent me in answer to my own. I had seen a cablevision program about the Arab American Friendship League. Former Senator Aburask was keynote speaker at the event. He stated that you had asked him if the PLO was a terrorist organization and that he had set you "straight" on the subject. I was shocked that you could even ask such a question. I wrote and asked if this statement was true. As can be seen from your response, the question was begged but never answered. I wrote to you again, and in turn was contacted by your then aid Chris Walsh. He stated that I would receive a proper response within 48 hours. After close to three years, I still await a proper response. By being quoted on a news program, Mr. President, your private conversation is no longer private.

What kept me from taking this matter further was your statement towards the end of your letter. You state that as long as the PLO reintegrated into its mainstream radical rejectionist groups, an action which would further confirm the terrorist image of the PLO, it would be less likely that the PLO could be a partner in peace. I now realize I misread your intent. The words "less likely" are the key, for although the PLO Central Committee is still made up of radical groups who have never renounced their intent to destroy the only Jewish nation on earth and although the PLO Covenant has never been renounced or changed, we still see it correct to sit down with murderers; murderers who would kill their own brothers if they would cooperate for peace with Israel.

./.

Mr. President, recent events confirmed my fears about your Middle East attitude and policy. You threaten to cut aid to Israel, if they do not guarantee that these funds not be used, to settle Russian Jews on Israel's West Bank, yet you invoke the "national interest" ruling for Iraq after the Congress identified this country as a terrorist nation to be denied U.S. funds. You speak of human rights, yet you forgive Iraq's production and use of poison gas on its own people. You talk of peace and stability in the region while Iraq launches a 40 ton three stage missile. Why does our Secretary of Agriculture promise a Senate Committee that no new loans would be issued to Iraq without proper notification, and then turn around to supply Iraq with an additional \$500 million. I am sure, Mr. President, that you are not foolish enough to believe that our aid is being used for humanitarian purposes.

Mr. President, why has there been a whitewash of PLO terrorism. If your position on the PLO is that it is a loosely structured organization, containing desperate elements, which cannot be controlled, then why do we waste our time speaking to them? Why do we sit idly by and allow PLO/Arab pressure to cut the pathway of freedom for millions of Soviet Jews? Do you wish to be known as the second Roosevelt who returned a boatload of refugees back to Germany to be murdered rather than let them be saved in the United States. Make no mistake, Mr. President, the air throughout the Soviet Union is rife with anti-semitism. If Armenian programs are taking place in Baku, are Jewish programs far behind? I have recently been to the Soviet Union, Mr. President. Jews live in fear. They want to get out. Make no mistake, Mr. President, Gorbachev needs our economic aid (in the form of investments) more than Arab political friendship. we could do something if only we wished to.

Mr. President, have the Arabists in your Cabinet won? Have you forgotten the plank in the Republican Platform? Has your administration regressed to the Eisenhower/Dulles era, when we were lured into a false sense of security? Has the oil of ARAMCO blinded us to what is right?

Mr. President, it was no so long ago that you sent your brother Jonathan together with Ronald Lauder, Steven Klein and other Republican representatives throughout the Jewish community to tell us that you are a friend, that you understood our fears, that you would continue the Reagan Administration Mid-East policy. I, for one was asked not to bring up the topics which would "rock the boat". Don't bring up your letter which was never answered. Don't bring up the topic of John Sununu, James Baker or Brent Scowcroft. Don't . . . don't . . . don't. I did as I was asked. Before you realize it, Mr. President, you will again send your representatives into the Jewish community and ask us to examine your accomplishments. You can be sure, Mr. President, that this time I will not be silent. I will ask them the questions which I should have asked years ago and more, Mr. President.

Mr. President, there is an old saying by which many of my people live: **BETTER TO KNOW A TRUE ADVERSARY, THAN BE MISLED BY A FALSE FRIEND.**

Respectfully,

Marvin Aschendorf
Marvin Aschendorf

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH THIS LETTER APPEARS ON SHAMIR STATIONERY, ALL OPINIONS IN THIS LETTER ARE MY OWN.

CC. Secretary of State James Baker
White House Chief of Staff John Sununu
National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft
Senator Patrick Moynihan
Congressman Richard Gephardt



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

July 1, 1987

Mr. Marvin Aschendorf
Director
Metropolitan Regions
Zionist Organization of America
4 East 34th Street
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Aschendorf:

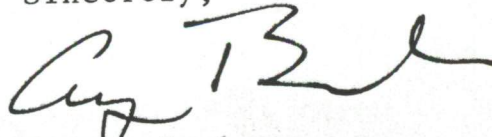
Thanks for your letter of June 17, 1987 concerning statements attributed to me on a U.S. news network. I have a longstanding policy of not discussing my private meetings. However, I do want to make my policy clear on terrorism and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

As head of the Task Force on Combatting Terrorism, I presented a very clear and concise policy on the U.S. stand against terrorism: the U.S. opposes terrorism in all its forms and wherever it takes place. I have enclosed a copy of the public version of that report.

My position on the PLO is clear and of longstanding duration: so long as the PLO refuses to recognize UNSC 242 and 338 and Israel's right to exist, and refuses to renounce terrorism, it has no place in the peace process. When the PLO reintegrated some of the most radical, rejectionist groups into its mainstream at the Palestine National Congress in Algiers, that action further confirmed the terrorist image of the PLO and made it even less likely that it could be a partner for peace.

That is my position in a nutshell. I hope this clarifies any questions you may have had on my views.

Sincerely,



George Bush

Enclosure