

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

C0074

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 10, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI MYRON M. FENSTER

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING STATEMENTS MADE
BY THE PRESIDENT ABOUT THE STATUS OF
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	90/04/10		
99 DOS	attn Paul S. <i>Stithin</i>			DJ	C 90/07/02
REFERRAL NOTE:		R	90/09/10		AP 90/12/22
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500 4800

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.

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 Myron M. Fenster, President
The New York Board of Rabbis, Inc.
DATE : April 4, 1990
SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Regarding Jerusalem
WH Referral Dated: April 16, 1990
NSC ID# (if any): 131204

 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:

Karen Emmerson
for Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 22, 1990

Rabbi Myron M. Fenster, President
Rabbi Gilbert S. Rosenthal
The New York Board of Rabbis, Inc.
10 East 73rd Street
New York, NY 10021

Dear Rabbi Fenster and Rabbi Rosenthal:

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.

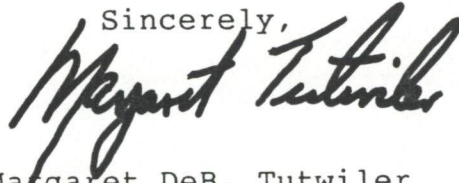
It has long been our policy that Jerusalem must remain undivided, with its ultimate status to be decided through negotiations. There is no question that negotiations about Jerusalem would be facilitated if we were well along on the path to peace, and thus there is no intention now to focus on the final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

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

9008637

'90 APR-14 11:15 AM
APRIL 16, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ATTN: PAUL SUTTHIN

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 131204

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 4, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: RABBI MYRON M. FENSTER
PRESIDENT
THE NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS, INC.
10 EAST 73RD STREET
NEW YORK NY 10021

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING STATEMENTS MADE
BY THE PRESIDENT ABOUT THE STATUS OF
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



THE NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS, INC.

10 East 73rd Street • New York, New York 10021-4194 • (212) 879-8415

131204

9 Nisan 5750
April 4, 1990

Sarah DeCamp

Rabbi Gunter Hirschberg
President
Rabbi Gilbert S. Rosenthal
Rabbi Marc Angel
Rabbi Louis Frishman
Vice Presidents
Rabbi Morton L. Gordon
Recording Secretary
Rabbi Marc Gellman
Corresponding Secretary
Rabbi Myron Fenster
Financial Secretary
Rabbi Alvin Kass
Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein
Treasurers
Rabbi Haskel Lookstein
Chairman, Board of Governors
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
Chairman, Advisory Council
Liaison Committee
Rabbi Alfred Gottschalk
Rabbi Ismar Schorsch
Honorary Vice Presidents
Board of Governors
and
Past Presidents
appear on reverse.

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are deeply disquieted and worried over recent statements you made about the status of Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the capital of the Jewish state from 1,000 B.C. until the Romans drove the Jews out in 70 of the present era. However, Jerusalem was always in our thoughts and hearts, our prayers and yearnings. For the Christians, Rome is the holy city; for Muslims, it is Mecca. But for Jews it is and always has been Jerusalem. There has always been a Jewish presence in Jerusalem except during the tragic First Crusade and by the nineteenth century, the Jews constituted a majority of the city.

From 1948 to 1967, the Jordanians controlled the Old City of Jerusalem. They refused all access to Jewish holy places such as the Western Wall; they desecrated ancient synagogues and cemeteries; and they cut the Holy City into two parts. Since 1967, Jerusalem has been one united city, open to all persons of all faiths with unfettered access to sacred sites. Both the Republican and Democratic Parties are on record as opposing any redividing Jerusalem.

We urge you to recall that pledge and to understand the emotional and religious significance of a free, open and unified Jerusalem for Jews. We urge you to stand by the commitment to a unified Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish State.

Cordially,

Myron Fenster

Rabbi Myron M. Fenster, President

Gilbert S. Rosenthal

Rabbi Gilbert S. Rosenthal, Executive Vice President

Rabbi Paul L. Hait
Executive Vice President
Director, Chaplaincy Services
Rabbi Moses A. Birnbaum
Associate Executive Director
Rabbi Eugene J. Cohen
Coordinator, Brith Milah Board
Rabbi Alvin M. Poplack
Chaplain, International Synagogue
Rabbi Jay H. Rosenbaum
Chaplaincy Administrator
Bunnie P. Veeder
Director of Broadcasting

*Rabbi Harold H. Gordon
Executive Vice President, 1946-77
*deceased

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Rabbi Ronald Androphy
 Rabbi Shlomo Balter
 Rabbi Allan Blaine
 Rabbi Benjamin Blech
 Rabbi Irving J. Block
 Rabbi Jacob Chiger
 Rabbi Donald Crain
 Rabbi Stanley Davids
 Rabbi Jerome Davidson
 Rabbi Louis Diamant
 Rabbi Martin Edelman
 Rabbi Joseph H. Ehrenkranz
 Rabbi Abraham I. Feldbin
 Rabbi David M. Feldman
 Rabbi Helene Ferris
 Rabbi Earl Fishhaut
 Rabbi Stephen D. Franklin
 Rabbi Morton Garfiel
 Rabbi Samuel Geffen
 Rabbi Stuart Geller
 Rabbi Louis Gerstein
 Rabbi Joseph Glaser
 Rabbi Henry Glazer
 Rabbi Jacob Goldberg
 Rabbi Julius Goldberg
 Rabbi Harvey L. Goldscheider
 Rabbi Robert Gordis

Rabbi Aryeh L. Gottlieb
 Rabbi Max Gruenewald
 Rabbi David Halpern
 Rabbi Joshua Hertzberg
 Rabbi Robert Jacobs
 Rabbi David B. Kahane
 Rabbi Wolfe Kelman
 Rabbi Barry Kenter
 Rabbi Charles Klein
 Rabbi Irving Koslowe
 Rabbi Benjamin Kreitman
 Rabbi Mark Kunis
 Rabbi Moshe Kwalbrun
 Rabbi Alan Lavin
 Rabbi Hyman Levine
 Rabbi Abraham M. Mann
 Rabbi Dennis Math
 Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer
 Rabbi Amos Miller
 Rabbi Israel Miller
 Rabbi Judah Nadich
 Rabbi Jehiel Orenstein
 Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
 Rabbi Jack M. Rosoff
 Rabbi Martin Rozenberg
 Rabbi Selig Salkowitz
 Rabbi Sanford E. Saperstein

Rabbi Jacob J. Schacter
 Rabbi Arthur Schneier
 Rabbi Barry Dov Schwartz
 Rabbi Reuven Siegel
 Rabbi Hillel Silverman
 Rabbi Martin Silverman
 Rabbi Melvin Sirner
 Rabbi Gerald Skolnik
 Rabbi Solomon Siomowitz
 Rabbi Sidney Solomon
 Rabbi Henry Sosland
 Rabbi Nathaniel Steinberg
 Rabbi Harvey Tattelbaum
 Rabbi Saul I. Teplitz
 Rabbi Bernard Walfish
 Rabbi Mordecai Waxman
 Rabbi Gerald Weider
 Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg
 Rabbi Jacob Wendroff
 Rabbi Jeremiah Wohlberg
 Rabbi Benjamin Wykansky
 Rabbi Allan Yuter
 Rabbi Joseph Zeitlin
 Rabbi Erwin Zimet
 Rabbi Bernard Zlotowitz

AND

Presidents of Local
 Boards of Rabbis

Bergen County, NJ, Rabbi Daniel Freelandier
Brooklyn, NY, Rabbi Myron Rakowitz
Buffalo, Rabbi Steven Mason
Capital District, Rabbi Samuel Kieffer
Greater Bridgeport, CT, Rabbi Arnold Sher

Long Island, Rabbi Esor Ben-Sorek
Rochester, Rabbi Laurence Skopitz
Rockland County, Rabbi George Stern
Suffolk County, Rabbi Steven Moss
Syracuse, Rabbi Daniel Jezer

PAST PRESIDENTS

*Rabbi Henry S. Jacobs, 1881-93
 *Rabbi Kaufmann Kohler, 1893-1902
 *Rabbi H. Pereira Mendes, 1902-06
 *Rabbi Joseph Silverman, 1906-07
 *Rabbi F. de Sola Mendes, 1908-09
 *Rabbi Maurice H. Harris, 1910-11
 Rabbi Bernard Drachman, 1912-13
 *Rabbi Rudolph Grossman, 1914-15
 *Rabbi David de Sola Pool, 1916-17
 *Rabbi Isaac S. Moses, 1918
 *Rabbi Moses Hyamson, 1919
 *Rabbi Nathan Stern, 1920
 *Rabbi Clifton H. Levy, 1921-22
 *Rabbi Simon R. Cohen, 1923-24
 *Rabbi Israel Goldstein, 1925-26
 *Rabbi Barnett A. Elzas, 1927-28

*Rabbi Elias L. Solomon, 1929-30
 *Rabbi Harry Weiss, 1931-32
 *Rabbi Max Drob, 1933-34
 *Rabbi Samuel J. Levinson, 1935-36
 *Rabbi Israel Goldfarb, 1937-38
 *Rabbi J.X. Cohen, 1939-40
 *Rabbi Joseph Sarachek, 1941-42
 *Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, 1943-44
 *Rabbi A.M. Heller, 1945-46
 Rabbi Theodore N. Lewis, 1947-48
 *Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, 1949-50
 Rabbi Morris M. Goldberg, 1951-52
 Rabbi David J. Seligson, 1953-54
 Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, 1955-56
 *Rabbi Joseph Miller, 1957
 *Rabbi A. Alan Steinbach, 1958

*Rabbi David I. Golovensky, 1959-60
 *Rabbi Harry Halpern, 1961
 Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz, 1962-63
 *Rabbi Max Schenk, 1964-65
 *Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, 1966-67
 Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, 1968-69
 Rabbi Harold I. Saperstein, 1970-71
 Rabbi William Berkowitz, 1972-73
 Rabbi Sol Roth, 1974-75
 *Rabbi Judah Cahn, 1976-77
 Rabbi Baruch Silverstein, 1978-79
 Rabbi Judah I. Washer, 1980-81
 Rabbi Norman Kahan, 1982-83
 Rabbi Morris S. Friedman, 1984-85
 Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, 1986-87

*deceased