

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

CO 074

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 30, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: SISTER MARY LOU KOWNACKI, OSB

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN
ISRAEL AND URGES CALLING UPON ISRAEL TO BEGIN
NEGOTIATIONS IMMEDIATELY WITH THE PALESTINIAN
LEADERSHIP

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
DOUG WEAD		ORG	90/05/30		C 90/5/31
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9014650

Date July 9, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB

Date: May 22, 1990

Subject: Expresses concern on the current situation in Israel and
urges calling upon Israel to begin negotiations immediately
with the Palestinian leadership.

WH Referral Dated: June 28, 1990

NSCS ID# (if any): 145121

 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.
- XX 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:

for Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 6, 1990

Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB
National Coordinator
Pax Christi USA
348 East Tenth Street
Erie, PA 16503

Dear Sister Kownacki:

I have been asked to reply to your May 22 letter to the President regarding last May's violence in the occupied territories and conditions there generally. We appreciated hearing the views of Pax Christi and its declaration of support for our peace efforts.

The killing of the eight Palestinian workers at Rishon Lezion in Israel May 20 by a former Israeli soldier was tragic, and apparently the work of a deranged individual. The President, in a May 22 statement, extended his sympathies to the families of those who lost their lives in this tragic incident. He also said that he was deeply troubled by the violent aftermath of these deaths, expressed condolences to the families of all those who lost their lives in the subsequent violence, and called upon Israeli security forces and others to act with maximum restraint.

We acknowledge Israel's responsibility to maintain security in the occupied territories but oppose the use of excessive force to do so. We also oppose Israeli practices which we believe are counterproductive to peace efforts. We have shared with the Israelis our concerns about these issues.

The situation in the occupied territories demonstrates the need to bring about a resolution of the underlying problems of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The U.S. has made serious efforts in this regard. We will continue those efforts with the new government in Israel. The Administration is prepared to assist the parties in the Middle East toward attainment of a just and durable peace. Such a peace would come from direct negotiations among the parties to the conflict based on the principles of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338: security for Israel and the exchange of territory in return for peace. Palestinians must also achieve their legitimate political rights. We remain strongly committed to the security of Israel and to the search for peace--two objectives which we believe go hand in hand.

Let me once again thank you for your expression of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. R. Brew', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

William R. Brew
Director
Office of Israel
and Arab-Israeli Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

9014650

'90 JUN-28 9:00 PM

JUNE 28, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 145121

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 22, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: SISTER MARY LOU KOWNACKI, OSB
NATIONAL COORDINATOR
PAX CHRISTI USA
NATIONAL CATHOLIC PEACE MOVEMENT
348 EAST TENTH STREET
ERIE PA 16503

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN
ISRAEL AND URGES CALLING UPON ISRAEL TO BEGIN
NEGOTIATIONS IMMEDIATELY WITH THE PALESTINIAN
LEADERSHIP

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

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Pax Christi USA

NATIONAL CATHOLIC PEACE MOVEMENT

145/21

348 East Tenth Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814/453-4955

May 22, 1990

9014650

'90 JUN-28 9:01 PM

D. Weed

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

President Bush:

This week's bloodshed in Tel Aviv, and the ensuing wave of riots and repression in Israel and the Occupied Territories, are appalling. However, I am not surprised that they occurred; tensions in Israel and the Occupied Territories are like a kettle ready to boil over at any minute.

The situation is now of crisis proportions. In the words of former Israeli intelligence director, Dr. Yehoshafat Harkabi, the chance of a war in the Middle East is absolutely certain if a solution is not reached soon.

I urge you to call upon Israel to begin negotiations immediately with the Palestinian leadership. You can provide the essential support to those within the Israeli government who see the urgent need for such negotiations. All our political will must be focused on a diplomatic solution which includes Palestinian self-determination and the acceptance of some kind of Palestinian homeland, as well as security guarantees for Israel.

Pax Christi USA promises to support you in your attempts to bring peace to that troubled land.

In peace,

Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB

Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB
National Coordinator

cc: Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad
US Secretary of State James Baker
US Senator Arlen Specter
US Senator John Heinz
Representative Tom Ridge