

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 145805

CD 074

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 31, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. SIBYL FEDER GASS

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS
ON THE PART OF ARAB STATES TO BLOCK THE
IMMIRGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS TO ISRAEL

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
SARAH DECAMP	ORG	90/05/31		C 90/07/03
99 DSS REFERRAL NOTE:				
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4400 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.

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9014082

Date June 30, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Ms. Sibyl Feder Gass

Date: May 29, 1990

Subject: Urges the President to oppose any efforts on the
part of Arab states to block the immigration

WH Referral Dated: June 21, 1990

NSCS ID# (if any): 145805

_____ 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.

X X 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:

D. G. M. Carneiro
Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 28, 1990

Sibyl Feder Gass, President
Alan Respler, Executive Director
Jewish Community Relations Council
2393 West Marlton Pike
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Dear Ms. Gass and Mr. Respler:

I am responding to your May 29, 1990 letter to President Bush regarding Soviet Jewish emigration.

We are pleased that, after many years of urging the Soviet Union to comply with generally accepted standards of human rights, including the right of people to emigrate, the USSR is allowing large numbers of Soviet citizens to emigrate. We strongly support the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

After President Gorbachev first made statements regarding the possible limitation of Soviet Jewish emigration, Secretary Baker raised the issue at Copenhagen with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. Shevardnadze assured the Secretary that the USSR will continue to exercise its liberal emigration policies. We would regard any restrictions of Soviet emigration policies as a serious matter. The Soviets are aware of our views on this subject.

We will continue to urge the Soviets to codify their emigration laws.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. R. Brew".

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

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

REFERRAL

JUNE 21, 1990

9014082

'90 JUN-21 10:17 PM

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 145805

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 29, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MS. SIBYL FEDER GASS
PRESIDENT
JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY
2893 WEST MARLTON PIKE
CHERRY HILL NJ 08002

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS
ON THE PART OF ARAB STATES TO BLOCK THE
IMMIRGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS TO ISRAEL

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

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

**President**

Deborah Klein Davis, Esq.

Vice PresidentsSibyl Gass
Helen Kushner
Dr. Joel Okon

May 29, 1990

Secretary

Dr. Lorraine Jerud

Executive Director

Alan Respler, A.C.S.W.

The Hon. George H. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to you on behalf of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey, which has, as its constituents, the sixty Jewish religious, social welfare and fraternal organizations of Southern New Jersey.

Our membership is deeply concerned over the growing campaign of the Arab states to block the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. This is just a new stage in the efforts of so many decades to block the immigration of Jews to their historic homeland, the only Jewish homeland, Israel. Israel is a nation of Jewish immigrants who have fled repression in the lands of their birth. Israel is the one country willing to take in all Jews without reservation.

We respectfully request that you use your good offices to oppose any efforts to diminish whatsoever the flow of Soviet Jews to Israel. Further, as you prepare to receive President Gorbachev, we ask that you stress this to President Gorbachev, that you welcome the continuation of his policy of open emigration, and urge that the long-promised legislation assuring a fair Soviet emigration policy be passed. We urge that the Jackson-Vanik Amendment not be suspended until that legislation is passed.

Respectfully,

Sibyl Feder Gass
PresidentAlan Respler
Executive Director

AR:dr