

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

CO 074

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 18, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI SYMCHA ELBERG

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE NATIONS OF
THE WORLD CONDEMNED ISRAEL'S ATTACK ON THE
PALESTINIANS ON OCT 8 90

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	90/10/18		C 90/11/06 - SD
99 DCS	REFERRAL NOTE:	A	90/10/26	LJ	A 90/10/30
SARAH DECAMP	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*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       *                      *                      *
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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

PLDeca

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9022979

Date October 31, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush
From: Rabbi Symcha Elberg
Date: Oct. 16, 1990
Subject: UNSC Resolution 672 re:Israeli use of force against
Palestinians on Oct. 8 in Jerusalem.

WH Referral Dated: Oct. 26, 1990
NSCS ID# (if any): 183846

 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 *Isador Baruch*
Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

October 30, 1990

Rabbi Symcha Elberg
Chairman
The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the
United States and Canada
235 East Broadway
New York, NY 10002

Dear Rabbi Elberg:

Thank you for your letter of October 16 to the President expressing your concerns regarding the tragic events that took place in Jerusalem on October 8, 1990, and the United States support in the United Nations Security Council for the adoption of Resolution 672. This UNSC resolution condemned the violence that took place and the excessive use of force in response by Israeli security forces. It also authorized the United Nations Secretary General to dispatch his representative to investigate the incident.

The United States voted for UN Security Council Resolution 672 because we thought it important to be on record opposing what we believe was unacceptable behavior by Israeli security forces. Our position was motivated by a genuine concern over what had taken place and the desire to see such occurrences avoided in the future. It did not, however, imply any criticism of Israel's policy governing access to the holy places of Jerusalem, which has been praiseworthy; nor was our vote in any way intended to minimize the harm done to those of the Jewish faith whose prayers were interrupted by stones. There are and can be no excuses for that.

The United States fully supports the efforts of the Secretary General to fulfill the mandate given him by Security Council Resolution 672. We have urged the Government of Israel to permit his representative to come to Israel to carry out his responsibilities, and supported Resolution 673 on this basis.

The events have been tragic, and we have urged all parties to exercise the utmost restraint to avoid further exacerbation of the painful and costly situation. The continuing violence and counterviolence painfully attest to the need for progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute, an endeavor we are dedicated to advancing.

Thank you for your interest. I hope that this information is of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth R. McKune". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth R. McKune
Acting 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

9022979

OCTOBER 26 1990
90 OCT 26 4:38 PM

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 183846

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 16, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: RABBI SYMCHA ELBERG
CHAIRMAN
THE UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS OF THE
UNITED STATES AND CANADA
235 EAST BROADWAY
NEW YORK NY 10002

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE NATIONS OF
THE WORLD CONDEMNED ISRAEL'S ATTACK ON THE
PALESTINIANS ON OCT 8 90

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

183846

S. DeCamp

אגודת הרבנים וארצות הברית וקנדה
THE UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
235 EAST BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10002

964-6337
964-6338

October 16, 1990

Hon. President George Bush
President of the U.S.A.
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Agudas Harabonim, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of U.S. and Canada, the oldest and most authoritative rabbinical organization established over 80 years ago comprized of over 500 Rabbis among them leading Torah authorities recognized world over, stand shocked and heart broken over the outrageous incident that occurred on October 8, 1990 during the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles. Jews from Israel and all over the world huddled in solemn prayer at the holy wailing wall pouring out their hearts to their creator, were assaulted and pelted with stones by the Palestinian mob who deliberately intended to disrupt the services and inflict bodily harm. We believe that the Jews acted legally and morally in self defense.

Our member Rabbis are broken hearted that the nations of the world as represented in the United Nations have hailed the murderers and condemned the victims.

We appeal to you, our dear and worthy President, the leader of the greatest moral nation in the world and who has dealt kindly in the past towards the state of Israel, not to abandon us in this hour of crisis. We have been victimized by the Nazis who thought to destroy us, body and soul, and with sufferings unparalled in human history. We appeal to you, Mr. President, not to allow the Arab terrorism to escalate into another genocide of the jewish people and the destruction of Israel.

אגודת הרבנים בארצות הברית וקנדה
THE UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
235 EAST BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10002

964-6337
964-6338

Hon. President George Bush

October 16, 1990

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May G'd bless these United States of America and grant you,
Mr. President the wisdom in the days ahead to bring peace to
the world and Israel.

Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada

Symcha Elberg
Rabbi Symcha Elberg
Chairman

Herf Ginsberg
Rabbi Hersh M. Ginsberg
Director

