

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

00 074

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 24, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SIDNEY SILVERMAN

SUBJECT: URGES THE U.S. TO REAFFIRM ITS SPECIAL TIES
WITH ISRAEL

		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	90/10/24		1/1/
99005	REFERRAL NOTE:	D	11/02		1/1/
	REFERRAL NOTE:		1/1/		1/1/
	REFERRAL NOTE:		1/1/		1/1/
	REFERRAL NOTE:		1/1/		1/1/
	REFERRAL NOTE:		1/1/		1/1/

COMMENTS: Return Draft to Bobbi Lieberg for signature.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

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, OEOP) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

PROOFED BY: TAR LOG # 8962
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG WLS A/O _____

LOG # 8962

SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

DOCLOG WMS A/O _____

DISPOSITION

11

4

N = No further Action

Other

(Date/Time)

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

8962

December 21, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: WILLIAM F. SITTMANN 

SUBJECT: Draft reply to Mr. Sidney Silverman, President,
Zionist Organization of America

Attached at Tab A is a modified State Department composed draft reply to a letter (Tab B) from Mr. Silverman. We suggest you incorporate that draft reply into a letter from your office. Please note that the correspondence tracking worksheet requests this draft be forwarded to Bobbie Kilberg for signature.

Attachments

Tab A Draft reply to Mr. Silverman
Tab B Mailgram from Mr. Silverman

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

8962

November 19, 1990

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

THROUGH: RICHARD N. HAASS *ml*

FROM: C. DAVID WELCH *mw*

SUBJECT: Letter to Sidney Silverman, President,
Zionist Organization of America

SIGNED

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum for Sally Kelley, Director of Agency Liaison, Presidential Correspondence, that forwards a revised State Department draft reply (Tab A) to a letter (Tab B) from Mr. Silverman.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to Sally Kelley.

Attachments

Tab I	Memo to Sally Kelley
Tab A	Draft response to Mr. Silverman
Tab B	Mailgram from Mr. Silverman

Dear Mr. Silverman:

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.

We voted for the resolution because we thought it important to be on record opposing what we believe was excessive use of deadly force by Israeli security personnel. 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 can be no justification for that. Furthermore, our policy on Jerusalem remains unchanged: Jerusalem should never be divided again and its final status should be decided by negotiations.

The United States supports the efforts of the Secretary General to fulfill the mandate given him by Security Council Resolution 672. We have welcomed the Government of Israel's invitation to his representative to come to Israel to carry out his responsibilities.

The events have been tragic, and we continue to urge all parties to exercise the utmost restraint to avoid further exacerbation of the painful and costly situation. The tension and violence 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,

1

B

8962

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9023477

Date November 8, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush
From: Mr. Sidney Silverman
Date: October 16, 1990
Subject: Urges the US to reaffirm its special ties with
Israel

WH Referral Dated: November 2, 1990
NSCS ID# (if any): 185086

 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.
☐ 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 V. G. Fink
Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

9023477
THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 2, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 185086

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 16, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. SIDNEY SILVERMAN
PRESIDENT
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
4 EAST 34TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10016

SUBJECT: URGES THE U.S. TO REAFFIRM ITS SPECIAL TIES
WITH 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

Zionist Organization of America

Office of the President

October 16, 1990

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully write to express our concern about the initiative taken by the United States in the United Nations to condemn the State of Israel as a result of the violence perpetrated by a mob which attacked innocent worshipers in the holy city of Jerusalem. This sends an unfortunate message to the world.

The Zionist Organization of America strongly supported your correct and courageous decision that Saddam Hussein's oppression against Kuwait could not be accepted by the world community.

Mr. President, we fully agree with your insistence that there is no linkage between Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the problem of the Palestinian Arabs. Unfortunately, the initiative the United States has taken in the United Nations undermines its credibility for in an effort to preserve the coalition it has formed in the Middle East, it has harmed a loyal ally and distracted attention from Iraq's perfidious behavior.

The United States and the nations of the world joined in formulating a resolution critical of Israel. They have permitted themselves to be exploited by a plan which undoubtedly was conceived by Saddam Hussein in concert with Yasir Arafat and the PLO. As a consequence, the anger of the world today is misdirected at Jerusalem and not Baghdad.

The loss of life in the Jerusalem confrontation is regrettable. At the same time, those who turned to violence took the risk of its consequences. Permit me to repeat the question posed by our Executive Vice President to Egypt's Ambassador to Washington, with whom he met this past week--"When 50 policemen in your country are confronted by a frenzied mob of 2-3,000 people who have no regard for their own lives, how do you contain the situation with 'restraint'". Egypt's representative had no answer. Mr. President, the same question can be asked of any police official in the United States, or that of any other nation. We believe that the standard of behavior expected of Israel is not only unrealistic but terribly unfair and unjustified. We regret that the U.S. rushed to condemn Israel in the U.N. before evidence was ascertained and verified.

The President
page 2
October 16, 1990

Mr. President, you are aware of the dramatic reduction in the level of violence in the territories due primarily to Israel's sincere desire to avoid bloodshed based on a non-confrontational strategy developed by Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Mr. President, the decision by the United States to be critical of Israel under these circumstances at this point in time, may seriously damage the stature of the United States as being the champion of world morality.

Mr. President, the United States should reaffirm its special ties with Israel so that its action taken at the United Nations should not be misinterpreted as a diminution in the long and trusted relationship both countries enjoy.

Respectfully yours,



Sidney Silverman
President

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9008962
RECEIVED: 13 NOV 90 09

TO: KELLEY, S

FROM: SITTMANN

DOC DATE: 21 DEC 90
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ISRAEL

MP

PERSONS: SILVERMAN, SIDNEY

SUBJECT: DRAFT REPLY TO MR SILVERMAN PRES ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMER

ACTION: SITTMANN SGD MEMO

DUE DATE: 16 NOV 90

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

EXECSEC

HAASS

WELCH

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY RCB

DATE 12/21

BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSRCB

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9008962

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 HAASS
003 SITTMANN
004

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 90111309 PREPARE SITTMANN TO KELLY MEMO
Z 90111919 FOR SIGNATURE
X 90122111 SITTMANN SGD MEMO

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9008962
RECEIVED: 13 NOV 90 09

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: SILVERMAN, SIDNEY

DOC DATE: 16 OCT 90
SOURCE REF: 185086

KEYWORDS: ISRAEL

MP

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: URGES US TO REAFFIRM ITS SPECIAL TIES W/ ISRAEL

ACTION: PREPARE SITTMANN TO KELLY MEMO DUE DATE: 16 NOV 90 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCP: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

HAASS

FOR CONCURRENCE

WELCH

FOR INFO

CHARLES
HAYDEN
ROSTOW
WORKING

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED