

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00074

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 25, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MICHAEL J. BOHNEN

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES DISMAY BY THE U.S. ACTION AT THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORTING
PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL

PLDECA

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
SARAH DECAMP		ORG	90/10/25		C 90/11/15-SD
99 DUS	REFERRAL NOTE:		A 90/11/02		A 90/11/10 TC
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4800 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, 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 9023534

Date November 13, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Mr. Michael J. Bohnen

Date: October 16, 1990

Subject: Expresses dismay by the U.S. action at the
United Nations Security Council in supporting

WH Referral Dated: November 2, 1990

NSCS ID# (if any): 185594

 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:

UNCLASSIFIED

Debra Huch
for Director
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 7, 1990

Mr. Michael T. Bohnen
President
Jewish Community Relations Council
of Greater Boston, Inc.
One Lincoln Plaza
Suite 308
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

Dear Mr. Bohnen:

I have been asked to respond to your letter of October 16 to President Bush 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; Secretary Baker has clearly stated that there was no linkage to the situation in the Persian Gulf, and that we would have voted for the resolution even in the absence of the confrontation with Iraq.

Our vote for UNSC Resolution 672 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 who were injured during these riots. 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 dark ink, appearing to read 'W. R. Brew', with a stylized, flowing script.

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

NOVEMBER 2, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 185594

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 16, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. MICHAEL J. BOHNEN
PRESIDENT
JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
OF GREATER BOSTON, INC.
ONE LINCOLN PLAZA
SUITE 308
BOSTON MA 02111

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES DISMAY BY THE U.S. ACTION AT THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORTING
PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING 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

Sarah DeCamp

185594

JCRC

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF GREATER BOSTON, INC.

One Lincoln Plaza, Suite 308, Boston, Mass. 02111 617-330-9600 Fax: 617-345-9691

President
Michael J. Bohnen
Executive Director
Nancy K. Kaufman

Member Organizations

Action for Soviet Jewry
American Association
of Jewish Holocaust
Survivors of Greater
Boston, Inc.
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Jewish
Historical Society
AMIT Women -
Greater Boston Council
Anti-Defamation League
of B'nai B'rith
Association of Reform
Zionists of America
B'nai B'rith Council of
Greater Boston
B'nai B'rith Women -
Greater Boston Council
B'rith Abraham
Combined Jewish Philanthropies
Eastern Massachusetts Region
Women's American ORT
Greater Boston Council -
NA'AMAT USA
Greater Boston Section
National Council of
Jewish Women
Hadassah
Hillel Council of Greater Boston
Israel Histadrut Committee
Jewish Civil Service
Employees, Inc.
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish Ministers Cantors
Association of New England
Jewish War Veterans
Labor Zionist Alliance
Massachusetts Board of Rabbis
Mercaz
One Generation After
Orthodox Rabbinical Council
of Greater Boston
Religious Zionists of America -
New England Region
Shomrim Society
Synagogue Council of
Massachusetts, Inc.
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America -
N.E. Branch
United Synagogue of America
New England Region
Vaad Harabonim
Workmen's Circle
Zionist Organization of America

October 16, 1990

The Honorable George Bush
PRESIDENT
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are deeply dismayed by the U.S. action at the U.N. Security Council in supporting passage of a resolution condemning the Israeli response to the recent riots in Jerusalem. We believe the United States made a serious error in rushing to condemn our sister democracy before giving them an opportunity to investigate these tragic events and report their findings. We join with others in expressing our profound regret over the loss of life to the rioters and the injuries of many more, Jews and Arabs alike.

We have strongly supported the Administration's policies in response to Iraq's actions in the Persian Gulf. We also share your view that there is no linkage or parallel between Iraq's brutal crushing of a member state of the U.N. and the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Efforts by Saddam Hussein to raise the intensity of debate on the Palestinian issue are a transparent and cynical attempt to deflect attention away from his naked aggression. We fear that in joining with those forces at the U.N. which routinely use that forum to isolate Israel diplomatically, including Arab states cooperating with the U.S. in the Persian Gulf, the Administration may be contributing to the very phenomenon that you seek to avoid, namely diversion of central attention away from Iraq's aggression.

continue



A constituent agency of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston

Mr. President
Page 2
October 16, 1990

We believe that instead of voicing a precipitous condemnation of Israel, U.S. policy would be better served by making it clear to the Arab states and their supporters that the use of the U.N. as a vehicle for continually heaping opprobrium on Israel, must be ended, once and for all. It is high time for the Arab states and the Palestinians to end their 42 year state of war with Israel and to begin negotiations toward a political settlement that will resolve the issues dividing them. Only then, will any lasting peace be possible.

Respectfully yours,



Michael J. Bohnen
President