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Record Group:	Bush Presidential Records
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WHORM Category Code:	CO120
WHORM Category Name:	Palestine, Islamic Republic of

Document Number:	122147
Alpha File Name:	

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 122147

INCOMING

CO 120

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 13, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. THOMAS NEUMANN

SUBJECT: URGES CLARIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY
CONCERNING THE CITY OF JERUSALEM AND THE
RIGHT OF JEWS TO LIVE THERE

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	90/03/13		C 90 04 102
99 DOS	REFERRAL NOTE:	R	90/04/04		A 90 14 118
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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 9008160

Date April 18, 1990

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Mr. Thomas Neumann

Date: March 12, 1990

Subject: Urges clarification of administration policy

concerning the city of Jerusalem and the right of Jews

WH Referral Dated: April 4, 1990

NSCS ID# (if any): 122147

_____ 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:

UNCLASSIFIED

Thomas Neumann
Director
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

April 18, 1990

Mr. Thomas Neumann
Executive Vice President
B'nai B'rith International
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036-3278

Dear Mr. Neumann:

I have been asked to reply to your March 12 letter to the President regarding U.S. policy toward Jerusalem. I know that this is an issue on which feelings and opinions are deeply held, and we appreciated your sharing your concerns with us.

We are aware of the great significance which Jerusalem has for the Jewish people as well as for people of all religions. Jerusalem must remain undivided. There can be no return to the status quo before 1967. Access to the holy sites must be ensured for people of all faiths.

Because it has long been our policy that Jerusalem must remain united and undivided, with its eventual status to be determined through negotiation, it follows that Jews and others have the right to live anywhere in the city.

The status of a unified Jerusalem must ultimately be decided through negotiation. In the meantime, we urge all sides to avoid unilateral acts or unilateral assertions of rights that might make it more difficult to make progress in the peace process. Such a negotiation would be facilitated if we were well along on the path to peace, and thus there is no intention now to focus on the final status of Jerusalem.

Israel's political system is now in the midst of important internal discussions. I can assure you that once a new government is formed, we will continue our peace efforts. The Administration is prepared to assist the parties in the Middle East toward attainment of a just and durable peace. We remain strongly committed to the security of Israel and to the search for peace.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Kurtzer

Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs

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

REFERRAL

9008160

'90 APR-10 8:16 PM

APRIL 4, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 122147

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 12, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. THOMAS NEUMANN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL
1640 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: URGES CLARIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY
CONCERNING THE CITY OF JERUSALEM AND THE
RIGHT OF JEWS TO LIVE THERE

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

122147



B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL

1640 Rhode Island Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-3278
(202) 857-6500
FAX (202) 296-1092

Thomas Neumann
Executive Vice President

9008160

March 12 1996 PM

J. DeCamp

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We were distressed to read your recent comments equating residence in East Jerusalem with the settlements in the West Bank. The position of a united Jerusalem is supported by all Jews throughout the world. It is our deep feeling that the city can never be divided again. Jews have lived in this holy city since ancient times, and only during the period of 1948-1967 were they denied access to their holy sites and restricted as to where they could live.

Today Jerusalem is a city that has been allowed to bloom as a true example of cooperation between Arabs and Jews. The revered sites for Jews, Moslems and Christians are respected and no one is denied access.

Introducing once again the question of a divided Jerusalem can only complicate the peace process that all Americans and Israelis desire. We know how hard your administration has worked to move the process forward. The recent comments categorizing the demographics of Jerusalem together with West Bank settlements can only hamper the process by raising insecurities and underscoring fears.

We urge you to clarify the administration's policy concerning the city of Jerusalem and the right of Jews to live in Jerusalem. We believe that your commitment that Jerusalem will never be divided again will make it possible for peace to come to the Middle East that much quicker.

Respectfully,

Thomas Neumann
Executive Vice President

TN/bf