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Record Group:	Bush Presidential Records
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WHORM Category Code: FG011
WHORM Category Name: Department of State

Document Number: 042943
Alpha File Name:

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

FG011

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 08, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND RICHARD B. WILKE

SUBJECT: APPLAUDS THE HONORABLE JAMES BAKER'S
FORTHRIGHT CHALLENGE ISSUED TO THE STATE OF
ISRAEL REGARDING THE CLOSING OF SCHOOLS TO
STUDENTS ON THE WEST BANK, DENYING *

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
SICHAN SIV		ORG	89/06/08		C 89/06/09
99 DOS	REFERRAL NOTE:	A	89/06/09	TR	A 89/06/19
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: * PALESTINIAN YOUNG PEOPLE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY

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

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8913518

Date June 19, 1989

For: Mr. Philip Hughes
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

To: President George Bush From: The Reverend Wilke
Date: June 1, 1989 Subject: Closing of Schools
in the West Bank, denying Palestinians educational opportunity.
Referral Dated: June 13, 1989 ID# 042943
(if any)

 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.
XXXXX 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:

Valeri E. Futscher for

Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 19, 1989

The Reverend Richard B. Wilke
Resident Bishop
The United Methodist Church
723 Center Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

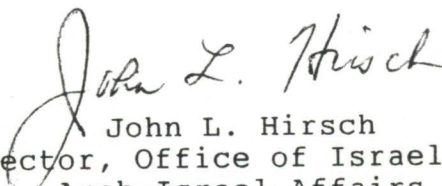
Dear Bishop Wilke:

I am responding on behalf of President Bush to thank you for your letter of June 1, conveying your support for the Administration's approach to the Middle East and for Secretary Baker's recent speech, in which he sought to express U.S. policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict in a clear, forthright manner.

The United States has long been committed to helping achieve peace between Israel and all its neighbors based on UNSC Resolutions 242 and 338. Successive Administrations have sought to develop a realistic process which would lead toward a durable peace. The Secretary believes that Israel's proposal for elections in the occupied territories provides an important opportunity to advance the peace process and is determined to do all that he can to support its success. To this end, he felt it appropriate to reiterate long-standing U.S. policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict in a manner that could not be misunderstood.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,


John L. Hirsch
Director, Office of Israeli and
Arab-Israel Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

8913518

'89 JUN-12 10:31 PM

JUNE 13, 1989

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 042943
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JUNE 1, 1989
TO: PRESIDENT BUSH
FROM: THE REVEREND RICHARD B. WILKE
RESIDENT BISHOP
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ARKANSAS AREA
723 CENTER STREET
LITTLE ROCK AR 72201

SUBJECT: APPLAUDS THE HONORABLE JAMES BAKER'S
FORTHRIGHT CHALLENGE ISSUED TO THE STATE OF
ISRAEL REGARDING THE CLOSING OF SCHOOLS TO
STUDENTS ON THE WEST BANK, DENYING
PALESTINIAN YOUNG PEOPLE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY

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



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ARKANSAS AREA
723 CENTER STREET

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
(501) 374-6679

RICHARD B. WILKE
RESIDENT BISHOP

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE
NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

8913518
'89 JUN-12 10:31 PM

R. Wilke
June 1, 1989

The Honorable George Bush
President of the United States
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Mr. Bush:

I am deeply grateful for the forthright challenge Mr. Baker issued to the State of Israel regarding the unconscionable closing of schools to between 300,000 and 400,000 students on the West Bank, denying Palestinian young people educational opportunity, his clear statement about the construction of the settlements illegally being built for the purpose of annexing the occupied West Bank to Israel, and that the State must forget the idea of a "greater Israel" if peace with their neighbors is to be achieved.

His strong statements to the Palestinians were well taken, too.

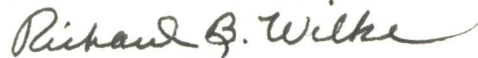
Mr. Shamir's response from London to our American concern was unbelievable, really. My hope is that others within Israel who are committed to the respect of human rights, and who realize the continued killing and maiming of Palestinian young people will only make the situation more difficult to resolve will get the message we are sending. Hearing Mr. Shamir's response, I wonder if his desire and the goal of others in the present government to annex the West Bank, like Mr. Ariel Sharon, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, former Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu and the Foreign Minister Mr. Moshe Arens, is not so overpowering that the challenge our Administration is issuing will only be heard if they realize U. S. financial support is jeopardized by their intransigence.

The Honorable George Bush
June 1, 1989
Page 2

I applaud Mr. Baker's courageous statement and the leadership he is giving as your Secretary of State.

I will do all that is in my power to seek support for the wise and sane policy your Administration is pursuing among the 15 million Methodists in the country. With warmest friendship, I am

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard B. Wilke". The signature is written in dark ink and has a fluid, personal style.

Richard B. Wilke

RBW:ma

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
ORM OPTICAL DISK NETWORK

ID# 042943

_____ Hardcopy pages are in poor condition (too light or too dark).

_____ Remainder of case not scanned.

_____ Oversize attachment not scanned.

_____ Report not scanned.

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☒ Duplicate letters attached - not scanned.

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Comments:



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ARKANSAS AREA
723 CENTER STREET

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

(501) 374-6679

RICHARD B. WILKE
RESIDENT BISHOP

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE
NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

8713518

16 JUL-12 10:31 PM

J. L. W.
June 1, 1989

The Honorable George Bush
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Washington, DC 20013

Dear Mr. Bush:

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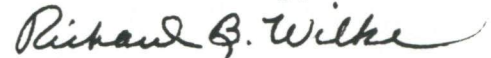
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Richard B. Wilke

RBW:ma