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TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: UNRECORDED

DOC DATE: 14 NOV 90  
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HU013-60

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR PRES MTG W/ JEWISH LEADERS ON 8 NOV

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

DUE DATE: 17 NOV 90

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FOR ACTION

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OPENED BY: NSGLM

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DOC 1 OF 1

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9009048

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

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CARD 1 OF 6

POINTS TO BE MADE FOR MEETING WITH  
AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS

- THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
- I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR COMING IN FOR THIS INFORMAL CHAT. I'M SURE YOU HAVE THINGS ON YOUR MIND; I WOULD WELCOME HEARING FROM YOU.
  - LET ME SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT WHERE WE ARE IN THE GULF SITUATION.
  - THE STAKES ARE ENORMOUS. STABILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS ON THE LINE. U.S. PRINCIPLES, WHAT WE STAND FOR AS LEADERS OF THE FREE WORLD AND WHAT OUR FRIENDS EXPECT OF US, ARE ALSO ON THE LINE. ENERGY STABILITY -- AND THEREFORE WORLD ECONOMIC STABILITY -- IS ALSO ON THE LINE. WE CANNOT, AND WILL NOT, LOSE.

CARD 2 OF 6

- I WANT TO RESOLVE THIS PEACEFULLY, THROUGH LETTING SANCTIONS WORK. BUT SANCTIONS MAY NOT BRING IRAQI WITHDRAWAL, AND MEANWHILE SADDAM HUSSEIN IS GUTTING KUWAIT.
- WE CANNOT COMPROMISE BY REWARDING IRAQI AGGRESSION. SADDAM'S APPETITE -- HIS AGGRESSIVENESS -- IS HUGE, AND HE WILL ONLY GO FOR MORE LATER UNLESS WE STOP HIM NOW. HE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE CHOICE IS WITHDRAWAL OR DEFEAT.



CARD 3 OF 6

- ISRAEL SHOULD BE REASSURED BY OUR FIRMNESS AND COMMITMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THE ISRAELI CONCERN ABOUT BEING THE TARGET OF IRAQ, AND WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND IN APPROPRIATE WAYS. WE HAVE 200,000 TROOPS THERE, SO WE HAVE THE MEANS. MY COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY IS TOTALLY SOLID, AND I JUST REAFFIRMED THIS IN A NOTE I SENT TO PRIME MINISTER SHAMIR LAST WEEKEND.
- I APPRECIATE ISRAEL'S SENSITIVITY TO THE UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS OF KEEPING THE ANTI-IRAQ COALITION TOGETHER. WE WANT TO AVOID THE LINKAGE SADDAM IS TRYING TO CREATE BETWEEN THE GULF AND PALESTINIAN ISSUES.

CARD 4 OF 6

- THE KEY THING IS TO KEEP THE FOCUS ON THE GULF CRISIS, WHICH IS WHY WE MOVED QUICKLY TO GET ANOTHER ANTI-IRAQ RESOLUTION THROUGH THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND WHY JIM BAKER IS OUT THERE CONSULTING WITH OUR COALITION PARTNERS.
- I WILL BE FRANK: WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL ON THE LINE IN THIS CRISIS. MANY OF YOU HAVE ASKED FROM TIME TO TIME FOR ISRAEL'S INTERESTS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT; WHAT I AM SAYING IS THAT NOW IS THE TIME FOR ISRAEL TO TAKE OUR INTERESTS INTO ACCOUNT. WE SHARE THE SAME GOALS IN THIS CRISIS, AND IT WOULD BE A MAJOR ERROR TO ALLOW OUR DISAGREEMENTS TO WEAKEN US IN THE CONFRONTATION WITH SADDAM.

CARD 5 OF 6

-- (IF THE HITLER ANALOGY IS RAISED) I AM WARNING THE WORLD AGAINST APPEASEMENT, WHICH WILL ONLY INCREASE HIS APPETITE AND RAISE THE CHANCES OF WAR. I DID NOT MEAN IN ANY WAY TO DIMINISH THE ENORMITY OF HITLER'S CRIMES, ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE JEWISH PEOPLE. THAT WAS NOT MY INTENTION OR MY MEANING.

(SEE ATTACHED SCOWCROFT/FOXMAN LETTER)

-- (IF SHAMIR'S DECEMBER VISIT IS RAISED) I WOULD OF COURSE BE PLEASED TO SEE PRIME MINISTER SHAMIR IF HE IS IN THE UNITED STATES IN DECEMBER.

CARD 6 OF 6

-- (IF THE JERUSALEM VIOLENCE, THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT, AND FURTHER SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION ARE RAISED) MY PURPOSE IS CLEAR: I WANT THE FOCUS ON THE GULF, NOT ON ISRAEL. THAT'S ISRAEL'S INTEREST AND OUR OWN AS WELL. I ASKED PRIME MINISTER SHAMIR TO HELP BY ACCEPTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S MISSION, AS THE BEST WAY TO PUT THIS BEHIND US; HOWEVER, SHAMIR'S RESPONSE WAS NEGATIVE. WE FACE FURTHER COUNCIL ACTION AS A RESULT.

-- I WON'T ACCEPT JUST ANYTHING IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND I WILL LOOK CLOSELY AT WHAT COMES UP. BUT I DON'T WANT TO VETO, BECAUSE THAT WILL PLAY RIGHT INTO THE PLO'S AND SADDAM'S HANDS, AND THEN I **WILL** HAVE A GULF PROBLEM.

POINTS TO BE MADE FOR MEETING WITH  
AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

- I would like to thank you for coming in for this informal chat. I'm sure you have things on your mind; I would welcome hearing from you.
- Let me say a few words about where we are in the Gulf situation.
- The stakes are enormous. Stability in the Middle East is on the line. U.S. principles, what we stand for as leaders of the free world and what our friends expect of us, are also on the line. Energy stability -- and therefore world economic stability -- is also on the line. We cannot, and will not, lose.
- I want to resolve this peacefully, through letting sanctions work. But sanctions may not bring Iraqi withdrawal, and meanwhile Saddam Hussein is gutting Kuwait.
- We cannot compromise by rewarding Iraqi aggression. Saddam's appetite -- his aggressiveness -- is huge, and he will only go for more later unless we stop him now. He must understand that the choice is withdrawal or defeat.
- Israel should be reassured by our firmness and commitment. We understand the Israeli concern about being the target of Iraq, and we have made it clear that we are prepared to respond in appropriate ways. We have 200,000 troops there, so we have the means. My commitment to Israel's security is totally solid, and I just reaffirmed this in a note I sent to Prime Minister Shamir last weekend.



- I appreciate Israel's sensitivity to the unique requirements of keeping the anti-Iraq coalition together. We want to avoid the linkage Saddam is trying to create between the Gulf and Palestinian issues.
- The key thing is to keep the focus on the Gulf crisis, which is why we moved quickly to get another anti-Iraq resolution through the Security Council and why Jim Baker is out there consulting with our coalition partners.
- I will be frank: we have a great deal on the line in this crisis. Many of you have asked from time to time for Israel's interests to be taken into account; what I am saying is that now is the time for Israel to take our interests into account. We share the same goals in this crisis, and it would be a major error to allow our disagreements to weaken us in the confrontation with Saddam.
- (If the Hitler analogy is raised) I am warning the world against appeasement, which will only increase his appetite and raise the chances of war. I did not mean in any way to diminish the enormity of Hitler's crimes, especially against the Jewish people. That was not my intention or my meaning.

(SEE ATTACHED SCOWCROFT/FOXMAN LETTER)
- (If Shamir's December visit is raised) I would of course be pleased to see Prime Minister Shamir if he is in the United States in December.



- (If the Jerusalem violence, the Secretary General's report, and further Security Council action are raised) My purpose is clear: I want the focus on the Gulf, not on Israel. That's Israel's interest and our own as well. I asked Prime Minister Shamir to help by accepting the Secretary General's mission, as the best way to put this behind us; however, Shamir's response was negative. We face further Council action as a result.
- I won't accept just anything in the Security Council and I will look closely at what comes up. But I don't want to veto, because that will play right into the PLO's and Saddam's hands, and then I **will** have a Gulf problem.