

Original FOIA Number: 2003-0262-F

2nd FOIA Number:

3rd FOIA Number:

4th FOIA Number:

5th FOIA Number:

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group:	Bush Presidential Records
Office:	Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)
Series:	Subject File - General
Scanned/Unscanned:	Unscanned

WHORM Category Code: PR012
WHORM Category Name: Petitions - Resolutions - Multiple Signatures

Document Number: 039202
Alpha File Name:

Seen

ID# 039202

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

PR 012

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 24, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. OVID M. HEPLER

SUBJECT: FORWARDS COUNCIL OF BIBLE BELIEVING CHURCHES
RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NATION OF ISRAEL
AND THE LAND OF PALESTINE

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
SICHAN SIV		ORG	89/05/24		C 89/05/26
PL Doug Wead	REFERRAL NOTE:		89/05/24		C 89/06/06
PL Watkins Joe Watkins	REFERRAL NOTE:	CJ R	89/06/08		C 89/08/23
PL Decamp Jerry	REFERRAL NOTE:	CJ A	89/08/23		C 89/08/31
99 Dofstee	REFERRAL NOTE:	CJ A	89/08/27		A 89/09/15 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE:		0907		

COMMENTS:

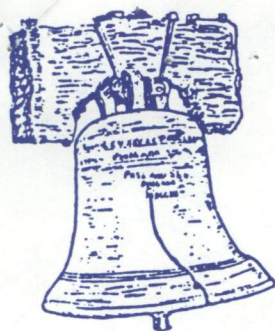
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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.

39202



National Council of Bible Believing Churches in America
Ovid M. Hepler, President, 6600 So. Windermere
Littleton, CO 80120 (303) 794-4587

May 9, 1989

Rev. Ovid Hepler
President
Denver, Colorado

Dr. John Waters
Vice President
Laurens, S.C.

Rev. John Mitchell
Secretary
Johnstown, Pa.

Rev. Ben Gerald
Treasurer
Thomasville, Al.

Dr. Carl McIntire
Honorary Vice Pres.
Collingswood, N.J.

S. Sw
Honorable George Bush
President of the U. S.
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Sir:

Our organization the Council of Bible Believing Churches met in annual session in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, April 5-7. 1989. We represent fundamental churches and church groups across the country.

Among other business we adopted a resolution concerning the nation of Israel and the land of Palestine. I am attaching a copy for your consideration and files. I am sure that the content reflects the feelings of most people in the Judeo-Christian heritage and who believe the promises of the Bible.

I trust that in any diplomacy concerning the land, Israel and the Palestinians, that the historic biblical position will not be compromised.

Sincerely yours,

Ovid M. Hepler
Ovid M. Hepler

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land" (Lev 25:10)

Resolution No. 3

ON ISRAEL AND THE "OCCUPIED TERRITORY"

To the President, the Vice President, members of Congress and other officials in Washington:

The decision of President Bush, calling upon Israel to surrender what he called "occupied territories", including the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which Israel secured as hers in the six day war, calls for the strongest protest from this Council of Bible Believing Churches in the United States. Such an action is a betrayal of Israel and an interference in her internal sovereign authority and also a reward to Arafat in meeting his demands that in these territories he should have the sovereign state of which he has been named President.

Christians throughout the world who support Israel as a state and her divinely granted right to the land of Canaan, a land "flowing with milk and honey", continue to stand solidly behind Israel.

The President's astounding and radical position also takes from Israel a part of the West Bank, Hebron, with the tombs of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Bethlehem, the city of David, half of Jerusalem, with its wailing wall and the Mount of Olives.

The United States who has previously been a friend, a supporter and defender of Israel, and has within it millions of people who believe the Bible to be the Word of God, and cherish all that it says concerning Israel and the precepts of the commands of the Old Testament. This council now declares that there exists a viable and practical solution of the conflict over land and territory of the conflicting parties, Israel and Palestine. Such a solution was presented to the nations of the world by the Twelfth Congress of the International Council of Christian Churches, June 6-16, 1988, meeting in Cape Canaveral, Florida, U.S.A. The resolution is also here adopted by this Council, with a prayer that the proposal presented by these Christian churches over the world, from one hundred nations will be considered and offered as a substitute for the one that President Bush has presented to Israel and the world. That resolution follows:

"The Holy Scriptures contain a text in the Old Testament which exhorts, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." (Psa. 122:6) The current strife in the Holy Land, calling for peace, finds a solution in the Holy Scriptures which this council commends to the powers that be. This policy for peace comes from the manner in which God handled the conflict between Jacob and Esau the two sons of Isaac. The parties in the present strife are the descendants of Jacob and Esau, now engaged in the age-old conflict which stems back to the trouble between the two brothers. (Genesis 27) God separated them and assigned to each one of them land which they were to occupy and possess as their own. By a promise sealed by an oath, God gave Jacob the land of Canaan, and to Esau, Mt. Seir. For 1400 years, Edom was a nation, and a glory attended their possession of the land. (Num. 20:21; 24:18; Gen. 50:24)

"In the present conflict, two parties are seeking to occupy the same

territory as nations. It is obvious that two different nations cannot occupy the same territory, both in reality and in peace.

"This Council calls upon the parties involved in these trouble to seek a peaceful solution. Israel should possess the territory that was given to her. The Arab Palestinians should build a nation in the land which their fathers occupied and that is rightfully theirs.

"The promises of the land were never repealed or retracted by Almighty God.

"The territory belonging to Esau, the Edomites, is available as a part of Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Let all Palestinians who desire a nation be directed to that which is theirs with full reparations to all involved. The Arab nations are related to the Arab Palestinians by blood, religion and heritage. The present tragic conflict cannot go on without injury to the cause of peace throughout the world.

"This Council therefore commends this biblical and historic solution.

"The Arab Christians presently in the Holy Land should be protected, their liberties respected, and all desiring to remain in the Holy Land should also be provided for. The human rights of all Christians, both in Israel and the Arab countries should be fully respected by the Arab powers and the State of Israel.

"In making this proposal, tested by time, the International Council of Christian Churches prays to God, who made the grants of land, to give His blessing and protection to all parties as this program of peace is carried out. With all due consideration to the preservation of human rights by all parties and the realization that as two separate states in keeping with God's assignment, there can be an answer to the prayer for the peace of Jerusalem, with each party occupying its own land and each respecting the land and the possession provided for them by the God who arranged it all."

In presenting this resolution, the Council of Bible Believing Churches in America, extends its deepest sympathy to Israel and prays that she may preserve, with the help of God, the integrity of her land, that she may not consider trading land for peace, but that she may recognize that what God Almighty promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is hers, and that the covenant has as its token the circumcision which every Hebrew son bears in his own body. The State of Israel needs the fullest support of the President, with the withdrawal of the term, "occupied territory" and his use of America's leadership in behalf of the solution that God Himself provided in giving separate lands to Jacob and Esau and their descendants.

Resolution unanimously adopted by the Council of Bible Believing Churches meeting in annual session in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, April 5-7, 1989.

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S: 8920501

Date: September 18, 1989

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush
From: Mr. Ovid M. Hepler
Date: May 9, 1989
Subject: Forwards council of bible believing
churches resolution concerning the nation of Israel.

White House Referral Dated: September 7, 1989

NSCS ID Number (if any): 039202

 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.
 X X 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:

Robert A. Guro
for Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 15, 1989

Reverend Ovid M. Hepler
President
National Council of Bible Believing
Churches in America
6600 South Windermere
Littleton, Colorado 80120

Dear Reverend Hepler:

I have been asked to respond to your May 9 letter to President Bush, which has just reached us. Thank you very much for forwarding the copy of the resolution "On Israel and Occupied Territory." You raise the question of the principles which guide United States diplomatic efforts for peace in the Middle East.

The principles of our search for peace in this region have been consistent for the past two decades. We seek a comprehensive peace through negotiations based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, security for all states in the region, and the achievement of Palestinian political rights. We remain fully committed to assuring Israel's security.

Israel proposed last spring a peace plan which includes the idea of elections in the West Bank and Gaza to choose Palestinians who would negotiate with Israel. We support this proposal because it has the potential to launch a political process which could lead to negotiations for interim arrangements and permanent status for the West Bank and Gaza. We have encouraged a positive Arab response to this proposal. We believe that the next step is to have a dialogue begin between Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and Israel about the elections proposal.

We have always believed that the way to peace lies in direct negotiations among the parties. We hope to start a political process which could lead to a viable and lasting peace satisfactory to all parties.

Sincerely,

John L. Hirsch
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

SEPTEMBER 7, 1989

8920501

'89 SEP-07 7:01 PM

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 039202

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 9, 1989

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. OVID M. HEPLER
PRESIDENT
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF BIBLE BELIEVING
CHURCHES IN AMERICA
6600 SOUTH WINDERMERE
LITTLETON CO 80120

SUBJECT: FORWARDS COUNCIL OF BIBLE BELIEVING CHURCHES
RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NATION OF ISRAEL
AND THE LAND OF PALESTINE

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