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PR 012

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING

☐ H - INTERNAL

☐ I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 91.10.15

Name of Correspondent: Leila Saba Hanna President
American Federation of Ramallah

☐ MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Postponement of the U.S. Loan guarantees
to Israel.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PLBATT</u>		<u>DJ</u> ORIGINATOR	<u>91.10.15</u>	<u>LHB</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>91.10.15</u>
		Referral Note:				
			<u>/ /</u>			<u>/ /</u>
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		Referral Note:				
			<u>/ /</u>			<u>/ /</u>
		Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments:

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOP).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: _____ Individual Codes: _____

Prime Subject Code: _____ Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence
 - n - 0 - Unknown
 - n - 1 - George Herbert Walker Bush
 - n - 2 - George Bush
 - n - 3 - George
- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 - n - 1 - Barbara Bush
 - n - 2 - Barbara
 - n - 3 - Bar
 - n - 4 - Mrs. Barbara Bush
- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 - n - 1 - Barbara & George Bush
 - n - 2 - Barbara & George

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

Dear Ms. Hanna:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter concerning U.S. policy toward Israel and the Middle East. Since the end of the War in the Persian Gulf, the United States has worked hard to take advantage of the potentially historic opportunity to move the Arab/Israeli peace process forward. In recent months, the Administration has achieved a great deal -- fashioning a process that, for the first time, would launch direct negotiations among Israel, Palestinians, and all of Israel's Arab neighbors.

As you know, the Administration is currently involved in extremely sensitive negotiations to pin down the final details that are related to convening a peace conference. What must be avoided is anything that would detract the parties from the hard choices and decisions that they have yet to make in order to get to the negotiating table.

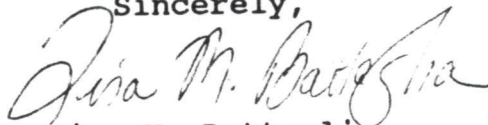
President Bush's decision to ask Congress to defer for 120 days consideration of Israel's request for \$10 billion in additional U.S. Loan guarantees that are intended help Israel absorb its many new immigrants is for the best of all reasons: peace. It is in the President's judgement that if Congress addresses absorption assistance now, a contentious debate will result -- one that could have the effect of losing the participation of either the Arab or the Israeli negotiating partners.

If this were to occur, the best chance to promote Arab-Israeli peace since the Camp David Accords will be lost, with uncertain and potentially dangerous consequences in the region.

Be assured, Secretary Baker has made clear to Israel our opposition to a number of Israeli practices, including continued settlement in the occupied territories. The Administration has also made clear that a comprehensive peace must be grounded in U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of territory for peace. This principle must be elaborated to provide for Israel's security and recognition and, at the same time, for legitimate Palestinian rights. Anything else, the President has pointed out, will fail the twin test of fairness and security.

The President appreciates your support on this important matter and send his best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lisa M. Battaglia".

Lisa M. Battaglia
Special Assistant
Office of Public Liaison

Ms. Leila Saba Hanna
President
American Federation of Ramallah
P.O. Box 2422
Livonia, Michigan 48151

(see ID 261378)

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF RAMALLAH, PALESTINE

P.O. BOX 2422 • LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48151 • (313) 425-1600 • FAX (313) 425-3985

September 18, 1991

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President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The American Federation of Ramallah, Palestine some 30,000 Americans with historic ties to Ramallah (a Palestinian city on the West Bank, a few miles from Jerusalem), congratulates you for your courage in standing up to political pressures and delaying \$10 billion in housing loan guarantees for Israel. Your contention that such aid would impair the peace process is the truth.

We have both special concerns which arise from our particular situation and general concerns which we share with all Americans. In each case, your action reflects those concerns.

We do not want to see our relatives thrown out of their homes. Even if the loan guarantees are restricted to housing within the pre-1967 borders of Israel and thus do not directly support settlements in the Palestinian territories, they will free up funds that will be used to build new settlements. This means the loss of homes and farms belonging to people dear to us.

These settlements are not built on "land without people." Even when built on vacant land, the settlements take scarce water, which inevitable means that local farmers are deprived of the ability to farm, thus lose their land. The funds used for housing, roads and utilities for settlers are taken from funds that should be spent to provide those things to people who have lived in the area for many generations. The settlers make the area unlivable by violence against their neighbors. Such violence is part of the settlers' basic aim of expelling Palestinians. But let us not talk abstractly about the expulsion of "Palestinians." We are talking about the eviction of our relatives, real people with names and faces and hopes for the future.

"In unity there is strength."

We are, however, not just a group with a special interest. With all American taxpayers, we see serious housing problems in this country. Why should we give loan guarantees to house people in another country when we do not give such loan guarantees to house our own citizens? We do not want to see homeless people in Israel. Nor, for that matter, do we want to see Palestinians going homeless, as too many of them do. However, if the people of the United States have \$10 billion for housing loan guarantees, we think that our own homeless people should have first priority.

Moreover, if our government gave loan guarantees to finance "whites only" housing projects, it would be both illegal under U.S. law and offensive to us. Yet Israel is requesting loan guarantees for "Jews only" housing projects. Such discrimination is just as offensive over there as it would be over here. We do not want to pay for it.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leila Saba Hanna".

Leila Saba Hanna
President