THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

FO.003-02

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 04, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER S. BOND

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES HIS SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S

ANNOUNCEMENT TO SELL TAIWAN F-16 AIRCRAFT AND

URGES HIM TO ALSO APPROVE THE SALE OF F-15

AIRCRAFT TO SAUDI ARABIA

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT-2590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND

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N Cole

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2503

September 3, 1992

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Your announcement of the F-16 fighter sale to Taiwan is good news for American aerospace workers. Your decision to go forward with the sale was a correct one; I support it and I will vote in favor of it if it comes before the Senate for approval.

Now we must go forward with a sale that is equally important — the sale of F-15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia. Press reports out this morning indicate that no significant roadblocks remain to the approval of such a sale. Most notable, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has suggested that Israel will not fight the Saudi deal. This morning's Washington Post states that "Rabin's government has concluded it would be futile in the current political environment to mount a campaign against the deal." The same article quotes Rabin directly as commenting, "I don't like lost battles."

In addition to the news about the lack of Israeli opposition, it is important to note that democratic Congressional leaders have indicated their support for the sale.

Mr. President, I was in St. Louis yesterday and I spoke to many McDonnell Douglas workers. They watched you announce the F-16 deal in Fort Worth on television and they have followed press reports on the Saudi deal closely. Certainly you can understand the anxiety and frustration they feel as they wonder whether they too will receive good news soon. I hope we can deliver that good news.

I commend your leadership on the F-16 sale; and I urge you once again to go forward with the Saudi sale immediately and tell the tens of thousands of men and women on the F-15 line and around the country that you will keep them working and keep their jobs here at home.

Thank you for your personal attention to this matter. I am available to discuss this with you further at any time.

Christopher S. Bond