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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 13, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE H. JAMES SAXTON

SUBJECT: URGES THE U.S. AND SOVIET UNION TO TAKE A
STRONG STAND IN ADDRESSING REGIONAL AMBITIONS
IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT HUSSEIN OF IRAQ AND HIS
HOSTILE TREATS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
FREDERICK MCCLURE	ORG	90/04/13	FM A	9004/23
NSCSCAW REFERRAL NOTE:	A	900425		/ /
99205 REFERRAL NOTE:	I	900427		/ /
90200 REFERRAL NOTE:	I	900427		/ /
90252A REFERRAL NOTE:	I	900427		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240
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*
- *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *
- *OUTGOING
- *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.

132451

H: JAMES SAXTON
13TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 1990

Enclosure

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you regarding the recent 'murderous' threat by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on April 2, 1990 in which he declares his willingness and ability to unleash an extensive stockpile of mustard and nerve gas on Israel.

This threat carries an even deeper message to the United States and our allies -- Iraq is equipped with a strategic weapons capability of delivering a devastating blow to any country in the Middle East, Israel included.

As a result of Iraq's hostile threats, I strongly believe that the U.S. should apply caution and restrictions against any company or bank that has dealings with Iraq. I also oppose loans to Iraq by international financial institutions, such as the Export-Import Bank for which you recently signed a waiver.

The acquisition over the last several years, by both Iraq and Syria, of chemical warheads and intermediate-range missiles, means that there is a potential strategic imbalance in that region. Coupled with its recent threat to strike against Israel, I find that Iraq has not met Congressionally specified conditions for a trade waiver. Specifically, there are no apparent verifiable assurances that Iraq is not using poison gas or is not planning to do so.

Consequently, in order to better protect Israel in the Middle East against an Arab first strike with chemical or other nonconventional arms, I believe that the U.S. should take more tangible steps to act on this deteriorating situation in that part of the world. We must make it firmly clear that the U.S. will not extend any form of credit, aid, or technology transfer in any form to a nation that is actively acquiring such weapons, or adding to its present stockpile.

April 23, 1990

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President regarding Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's threat to use chemical weapons against Israel.

We appreciate being apprised of your views regarding this situation, and have particularly noted your opposition to extending trade financing to Iraq. Please know that I have shared your concerns and recommendations with the President's national security and foreign policy advisors for their review and consideration.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable H. James Saxton
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

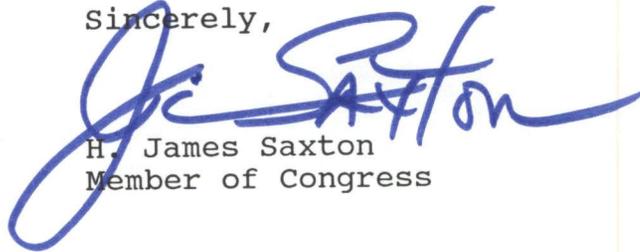
FDM:SLM:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - for appropriate action
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of Commerce - FYI
bcc: w/ copy of inc to USTR - FYI

President George Bush
Page 2
April 12, 1990

In an era of increasing superpower cooperation, both the U.S. and the Soviet Union must do all they can to take a strong stand in addressing regional ambitions and conflicts that fuel demands for weapons of mass destruction. I respectfully request that you reconsider your recent finding with regard to extending trade financing to Iraq.

Sincerely,



H. James Saxton
Member of Congress

HJS/jnb