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INCOMING
THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 07, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BARBARA A. MIKULSKI

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES OUTRAGE OVER THE RECENT SURGE IN GASOLINE PRICES IN THE WAKE OF THE IRAQI INVASION OF KUWAIT AND URGES THE PRESIDENT TO END CONSUMER GOUGING BY U.S. OIL COMPANIES

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<th>(STAFF NAME)</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210

MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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* ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING *
* A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *CORRESPONDENCE: *
* C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
* D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED *
* F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *
* I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC *
* R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *
* S-FOR-SIGNATURE *
* X-INTERIM REPLY *
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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.
August 8, 1990

Dear Senator Mikulski:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President regarding increases in the price of oil in the wake of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

We appreciate being apprised of your concerns regarding the dramatic price increases and its impact on consumers throughout the country. Please know that your comments have been shared with the President. Additionally, I have taken the liberty of providing your remarks to the President's national security and energy policy advisors so that they, too, are aware of your views.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM: SLM:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - for direct response
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of Energy - FYI
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI
August 6, 1990

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

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to express outrage over the recent surge in gasoline prices in the wake of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Many oil companies and service station dealers are apparently cashing in on the crisis and taking advantage of U.S. consumers by raising pump prices -- some as much as 15 cents a gallon! I urge you to exercise leadership and all presidential powers at your disposal to end this obvious consumer gouging. We cannot allow greed in our country to exploit this difficult international situation.

The size, rapidity, and timing of these increases is not only unfair, it is causing panic-buying among some consumers, especially farmers, commuters, and truckers whose livelihood depends on gasoline. If motorists begin hoarding gasoline or topping off their tanks, real shortages and gas lines might not be far behind. Moreover, such rapid price increases play into the hands of Saddam Hussein, jeopardizing this nation’s military, economic, and energy security.

Mr. President, know that I will stand by you. If you need us for consultation or a vote, you can count on me.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator

BAM:clp