

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 169823

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 28, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DAVID L. BOREN

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE IRAQI DEBT

AND THE POSSIBLE EFFECT ON OUR AGRICULTURAL

SECTOR

	ACTION	DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT DATE CODE YY/MM/DD	TYPE C COMPLETED RESP D YY/MM/DD	
FREDERICK MCCLURE REFERRAL NOTE: 990MB REFERRAL NOTE:		c_/_TC	
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B)	INDIVIDUAL CO		
********************************* *ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION * *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFED *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 * **********************************	*OUTGOI *CORRES *TYPE F RRAL * * COMPLE * *		

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.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

October 3 1 1990

The Honorable David L. Boren United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510-6175

Dear Dave:

Thank you for the copy of your recent letter to the President urging that he use available statutory powers concerning blocked Iraqi assets to permit U.S. creditors, including the Federal Government, to recover losses stemming from Iraq's defaults in connection with credit extended under the Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) Export Credit Guarantee Programs.

I assure you that we will take all possible steps to protect CCC assets and to recover any payments due from Iraq under our Export Credit Guarantee Programs.

The International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) does not currently authorize the taking of the action you urge. Although IEEPA does confer upon the President certain authorities in declaring a national emergency and blocking Iraqi assets, the IEEPA does not provide the authority to vest in the U.S. title to Iraqi assets. The Trading with the Enemy Act contains such authority, which could be used in the event of the existence of a state of war between the United States and Iraq. This would be handled by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the GSM Export Credit Guarantee Program.

Sincerely,

Signed

Clayton Yeutter Secretary

CC: Sally Kelley
The White House

Dear Dave:

Thank you very much for your recent letter to the President concerning Iraqi debt held by banks participating in the Agriculture Department's GSM credit guarantee programs.

We appreciate being apprised of your concerns regarding the potential cost to the Commodity Credit Corporation if banks for Iraqi purchasers of U.S. agricultural products begin to default and the eventual impact this could have on the agricultural sector. Please know that I have taken the liberty of sharing your comments with the President's agricultural and budget policy advisors so that they, too, are aware of views regarding this situation.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable David L. Boren United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM: SLM:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of Agriculture - for appropriate
 action

bcc: w/ copy of inc to OMB - FYI bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - FYI

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of the Treasury - FYI

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI

C OREN

SLAH.

JSS-LL BUILDING

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
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CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON

CHAIRMAN.

MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON

MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Medine

The Honorable George Bush President of the United States The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you continue to lead us through the current Middle East crisis, I wish to bring to your attention a particular problem resulting from the Iraqi situation that could have very direct and harmful effects on our agricultural sector.

The United States and it's citizens currently hold an estimated \$2.6 billion in Iraqi debt. Of this amount, approximately 1.9 billion is held by banks participating in the Agriculture Department's GSM credit guarantee programs. Soon, when banks for Iraqi purchasers of U.S. agricultural products begin to default, the banks for U.S. exporters will turn to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and call the quarantees.

The impact on the CCC budget could be tremendous. The Department of Agriculture has estimated that paying the guarantees could cost up to \$900 million in fiscal 1991.

I applaud your action freezing all Iraqi government assets held in the U.S. I now urge you to use all authority available to you under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and any other applicable statute to transfer title of these assets, place liens against them, or otherwise attach them so U.S. creditors, including the Federal government, can recover some of their losses.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I wish you well as you lead us in the Middle East effort.

Sincerely,

David L. Boren

United States Senate

cc: The Honorable Nicholas Brady
The Honorable Clayton Yeutter

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 24, 1990

CHAIRMAN,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

169823

MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND AGRICULTURAL TAXATION

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NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
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DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN MARKETING

MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

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