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NSC/S PROFILE

180265
RECORD ID: 9008156
RECEIVED: 12 OCT 90 16

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TO: FASCELL, DANTE B

FROM: SCOWCROFT

DOC DATE: 02 NOV 90
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: IRAQ
CO

KUWAIT

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO CONGRESSMAN FASCELL LTR TO PRES RE US POLICY TOWARD
IRAQ

ACTION: SCOWCROFT SGD MEMO

DUE DATE: 28 OCT 90

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHARLES
NSC CHRON

COMMENTS: _____

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DOC 3 OF 3

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9008156

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 HAASS	Z 90101216	PREPARE MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT
002 SCOWCROFT	Z 90102519	FOR SIGNATURE
002 CHARLES	Z 90102613	FOR FURTHER ACTION
002 SCOWCROFT	Z 90102710	FOR SIGNATURE
003	X 90110219	SCOWCROFT SGD MEMO

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 2, 1990

Dante

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter to the President of October 2, 1990 concerning U.S. policy toward Iraq. We too are keenly aware of the historic import of the events both preceding and during the current crisis, and consistent with both the law and our practice, are maintaining records that document the events and policy decisions. Once the crisis is behind us, we will be in a better position to determine the extent of any policy review that might be undertaken.

Again, I appreciate your suggestion and interest on this issue of serious importance to our national security.

Sincerely,

Brent
Brent Scowcroft

The Honorable Dante B. Fascell
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Affairs
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 23, 1990

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

THROUGH: RICHARD N. HAASS

FROM: SANDRA CHARLES

SUBJECT: Response to Congressman Fascell

Attached at Tab I is a response to Congressman Fascell's letter to the President (Tab II) concerning the need to review past actions related to U.S. policy toward Iraq that led to the current crisis, and prepare a report and recommendations for the Congress. Your response reassures him our record-keeping but makes no promises on a post-crisis "white paper."

Ginny Lampley concurs.

about

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the response to Congressman Fascell at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Response to Congressman Fascell

Tab II Letter from Congressman Fascell

October 10, 1990

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President expressing your thoughts on the importance of a timely review of U.S. actions prior to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

I have shared your comments with the President and he appreciates your counsel. I have also provided copies of your letter to General Scowcroft and a number of other administration officials for their prompt review and consideration. You should receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Thank you again for writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Dante B. Fascell
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:HGP:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - for DIRECT
response

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

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

90 OCT 12 P 4 : 01

RECEIVED

Congress of the United States
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives

October 2, 1990

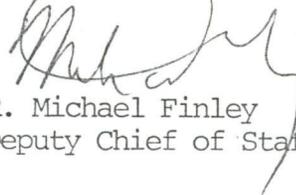
Mr. Nicholas Calio
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Calio:

Chairman Fascell asked that I send the enclosed letter to the President through you.

If you wish to contact me, I may be reached at (202) 225-5021.

Sincerely,



R. Michael Finley
Deputy Chief of Staff

RMF:dmh
enclosure

**National Security Council
The White House**

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	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
<u>Ken Hill</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>✓</u>	<u>A</u>
Bill Sittmann	<u>2</u>	<u>copy ✓</u>	
Bob Gates	<u>3</u>		
Brent Scowcroft			
Bill Sittmann			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>St. 10/26</u>	<u>A</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>5</u>		
<u>Charles</u>			<u>FFA</u>

A = Action **I = Information** **D = Dispatch** **R = Retain** **N = No further Action**

cc: **VP** **Sununu** Other _____

Should be seen by: _____
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COMMENTS

Pls make correction on TAB 1.

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Response to Cong
Fascell

National Security Council
The White House

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	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Ken Hill	5		A
Bill Sittmann	6	W	A
Bob Gates	7	J	
Brent Scowcroft	8	✓	
Bill Sittmann			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	9	MT 11/2	N
NSC Secretariat	10	MT 11/2	D
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COMMENTS

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One Hundred First Congress
Congress of the United States
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515



October 2, 1990

Jack McClure

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

Dear Mr. President:

Full responsibility for the invasion of Kuwait rests with the government of Iraq. There is not and cannot be any other conclusion regarding culpability for the Persian Gulf crisis.

Legitimate questions have arisen, however, within Congress and amongst the American people as to whether the United States did all it could have done to discourage Iraq's aggressive action. Now is not the time for a public debate on what might have been done. Retrospection makes experts of us all, unfortunately after the fact.

But it is important that we review past actions to assure that our future policies have the benefit of experience gained. In this particular instance I believe that it is extremely important that a determination be made about what actually happened and what was done right or wrong in our relations with Iraq since you became President. To assure the necessary objectivity for such a review I believe it should be conducted by persons not now employed by the government who have not had direct involvement in the issues involved. A report and accompanying recommendations should be shared with the Congress after the Persian Gulf Crisis has been resolved.

Whether or not you choose to take steps now to review US policy toward Iraq I urge you to take appropriate steps now to assure that all documents which might relate to our policy be preserved and that, while memories are fresh, historical statements be taken from those who had any part to play.

The Honorable George H.W. Bush
October 2, 1990

Page Two

Mr. President, in making this suggestion, I in no way wish to suggest any diminution whatsoever in my support or that of the Congress for the strong and effective steps you are taking in response to Iraq's totally unjustified actions.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dante", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Dante B. Fascell
Chairman

DBF:RMFdmh

Congress of the United States
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives

October 2, 1990

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Deputy Assistant to the President
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The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

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