THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 16, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE TIMOTHY E. WIRTH

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO ENSURE THAT IRAQ HONORS ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND RELEASE AMERICAN HOSTAGES, GARY SHREVE AND RALPH LEIDHOLT

ROUTE TO: FREDERICK MCCLURE
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) 99205
ACT ORG 90/10/16
DATE 90/10/16
TYPE M
RESP 90/10/16
COMPLETED 90/10/16

REFERRAL NOTE: 99205

REFERRAL NOTE: NS Stat

REFERRAL NOTE: LAMCEL

COMMENTS: Letters sent to all signers

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 7 MEDIA: L
INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210 1220 1240
MAIL

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

* ACTION CODES: A-APPROPRIATE ACTION C-COMMENT/RECOM D-DRAFT RESPONSE F-FURNISH FACT SHEET I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY S-FOR-SIGNATURE X-INTERIM REPLY

*DISPOSITION A-ANSWERED B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL C-COMPLETED S-SUSPENDED

*OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE TYPE RESP=INITIALS CODE = A OF SIGNER COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

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.
UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9023195

Date February 8, 1991

FOR: Mr. William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary
National Security Council Staff
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Timothy E. Wirth

Date: October 10, 1990

Subject: The release of Ralph W. Leidholdt and Gary Shreve from Iraq

WH Referral Dated: October 30, 1990
NSCS ID# (if any): 183011

The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

A draft reply is attached.

A draft reply will be forwarded.

A translation is attached.

X An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.

The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.

Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

FEB 7 1991

Dear Senator Wirth:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning Gary Shreve and Ralph Leidholt, American citizens who were detained by the Iraqi government.

I am pleased to advise you that both Mr. Shreve and Mr. Leidholt have returned to the United States.

Sincerely,

Janet G. Mullins
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

The Honorable
Timothy E. Wirth,
United States Senate.
THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

OCTOBER 30, 1990

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 183011

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 10, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: THE HONORABLE TIMOTHY E. WIRTH
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON DC 20510

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO
ENSURE THAT IRAQ HONORS ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND RELEASE AMERICAN
HOSTAGES, GARY SHREVE AND RALPH LEIDHOLT

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE
October 25, 1990

Dear Senator Wirth:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent letter, cosigned by the other members of the Colorado delegation, requesting that the Administration do everything it can to obtain the release of Mr. Ralph W. Leidholdt and Mr. Gary Shreve, who are being held by the Iraqi government against their wills.

We sincerely appreciate being apprised of your concerns about Mr. Leidholdt's heart condition. A day does not pass when the welfare of our citizens in the Persian Gulf is not on the mind of the President, and bringing these U.S. citizens home is of the highest priority. Please know that I have shared your correspondence with the appropriate Presidential advisors so that they, too, are aware of your concerns.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

---

The Honorable Timothy E. Wirth
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM:SLM:jfc (10FDMG)
Colorado.Spf

bcc: w/copy of inc to Department of State - for DIRECT response
bcc: w/copy of inc to NSC - FYI
The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to bring your attention to the cases of Mr. Ralph W. Leidholdt and Mr. Gary Shreve, American citizens who are being held against their will by the Government of Iraq.

Mr. Leidholdt and Mr. Shreve are employees of the OMI Corporation of Kingwood, Texas and were working in Kuwait City at the time of the Iraqi invasion. It is our understanding that these men are now being held at the Mansour-Melia Hotel in Baghdad, which also serves as Iraqi Army headquarters. Mr. Leidholdt is of particular concern to us because he suffers from a very serious heart condition and, according to the State Department, has already suffered a heart attack as a result of his detention in Baghdad.

Mr. President, we know you are doing all you can to ensure the safety of Americans held by Iraq, but we did want to bring the specific cases of Mr. Leidholdt and Mr. Shreve to your personal attention. Part II, Article 34, of the Geneva Convention specifically prohibits the taking of hostages. Iraq is a signatory to the Geneva Convention. We urge you to do all in your power to ensure that Iraq honors its obligations under international law and that American hostages such as Mr. Leidholdt and Mr. Shreve are released as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Timothy E. Wirth  
United States Senator

William L. Armstrong  
United States Senator

Hank Brown  
Member of Congress

Ben Nighthorse Campbell  
Member of Congress
The President
Page Two
October 10, 1990

Joel Hefley
Member of Congress

Dan Schaefer
Member of Congress

Patricia Schroeder
Member of Congress

David E. Skaggs
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable James Baker III
THE WHITE HOUSE 
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<td>OFFICE/AGENCY</td>
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COMMENTS:

letters sent to all agents

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-mail - user codes: (a) (b) (c)

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Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs

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United States Senate
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