

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 11, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND RICHARD N. JESSEN

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION FOR
PERSONAL TALKS WITH THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT
TO RESOLVE THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
LEIGH ANN METZGER		ORG	90/12/11	AM LAW	91/01/24	LJ
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500 4800

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

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| *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* | | OUTGOING | * |
| *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.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 24, 1991

Dear Bishop Jessen:

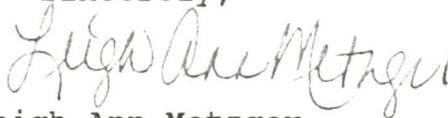
On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your thoughtful and forthright letter about the situation in the Persian Gulf. As the President's liaison to the religious community, I appreciate knowing the position of the Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on this issue of utmost importance.

As you know, diplomatic efforts by the United States, the Arab League, the United Nations, the European Community, and others to achieve a peaceful resolution of this crisis were rejected by Saddam Hussein. The choice of peace or war was his to make. The actions now being taken unmistakably demonstrate the resolve of the international coalition that Iraq comply with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions. The President hopes that this objective can be achieved quickly.

Throughout our history, the United States has been committed to defending fundamental principles of freedom and human rights. Consistent with these principles are the UN goals that Iraq must withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait; that Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored; and that security and stability must be restored to the Persian Gulf region.

The President, as you may recall, has encouraged our nation to pray for the safety and well-being of our service men and women in the Middle East. You may also be interested in the President's remarks of January 16th, from the Oval Office, which I have enclosed.

Sincerely,



Leigh Ann Metzger
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

The Right Reverend Richard N. Jessen
Bishop, Nebraska Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
124 S. 24th Street, Suite 204
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

L. A. Metzger

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NEBRASKA

Synod

EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN

CHURCH

IN

AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 4, 1990

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Please accept my support for your invitation for personal talks with the Iraqi government. While we cannot tolerate the kind of aggression that has been exercised by Iraq, it seems so clear that armed conflict settles very little at a very great price. We understand the show of force that is necessary, but we urge you not to use it. We want to support you in every effort you can make to settle these matters diplomatically rather than with armed conflict.

Respectfully,

Richard N. Jessen
Bishop

RNJ:cg

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