DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 19, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH J. PATTERSON

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT FROM DR. SAMI ELHASSANI AND ZUHAIR YACU URGING THE PRESIDENT TO STOP UNNECESSARY BOMBING IN IRAQ

ROUTE TO: FREDERICK MCCLURE
OFFICE/AGENCY: (STAFF NAME) 99 DOD

REFERRAL NOTE: ORG 91/02/19 FM 91/02/20 JF

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ACTION DISPOSITION

ACT CODE DATE TYPE RESP C COMPLETED

COMMENTS: 

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 

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

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*ACTION CODES:  *DISPOSITION  *OUTGOING  *CORRESPONDENCE:  *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  *OF SIGNER  *CODE = A  *COMPLETED = DATE OF  *OUTGOING  
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED  *  *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM  *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL  *
*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.
February 20, 1991

Dear Congresswoman Patterson:

Thank you for your recent correspondence forwarding the letter for the President that you received from your constituent, Dr. Sami B. Elhassani.

We appreciate being apprised of Dr. Elhassani's concerns for the Iraqi people. Please assure him that I have shared his comments with the President's military advisors, and his views will be carefully noted.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Liz J. Patterson
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:SLM:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of Defense - FYI
February 13, 1991

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

Dear Mr. President:

I would appreciate your consideration of the matter addressed in the accompanying letter from my constituent, Dr. Sami B. Elhassani.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth J. Patterson
Member of Congress

EJP:rfp
February 13, 1991

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

Because we are United States citizens of Iraqi birth, the crisis in the Gulf has special poignancy to us. We do not question that Saddam Hussein is a greedy, murderous and dangerous dictator. He killed thousands of Iraqis during his ascent to power, then waged war on Iran without advice and consent. While thousands of Iraqi youth were perishing at the front, he built palaces and monuments to glorify himself and his Bath party. He used gas not only on Iranians but also on the brave Kurds in northern Iraq. He threatened that if Iran should ever come close to winning the war, it would be handed a land without people. Shortly after the war ended, he started to bully his neighbors and is now occupying Kuwait against the will and mandate of the United Nations.

The Iraqi people, on the other hand, are like any other people in the world. They are peace loving, family-focused, intelligent and kind people with a history of culture and civilization. They abhor Saddam and his gang of killers. They, unfortunately, can do no more to stop him than the Russians or Germans could have done to stop Stalin or Hitler. We are therefore, Mr. President, making a plea to you to distinguish between Saddam and the innocent Iraqi people. In our attempt to punish Saddam for his crimes against humanity (including his own people), we should not inflict death on the long-suffering people of Iraq and, in the process turn world opinion against us.

The constant bombing of Baghdad, the destruction of Iraqi infrastructure, and the killing of thousands of innocent people can not possibly be condoned by any civilized society. Our actions in Iraq far exceed our objective of liberating Kuwait. In fact, Mr. President, our strategy to destroy Iraq is serving to make Saddam a hero among the Arabs and Moslems of the world including our own allies.

Mr. President, please stop the unnecessary destruction of Iraq and let us focus on destroying Saddam and his cronies and in the process liberate not only Kuwait but Iraq as well.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Zuhair A. Yacu
Sami B. Elhassani, M.D.