

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 13, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. ASAD KHAILANY

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS REGARDING THE KURDISH  
PEOPLE IN IRAQ

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
DEPARTMENT OF STATE		PAP ORG	91/03/15	TC	1/1/91
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS: FAX COPY OF LETTER ALSO ATTACHED

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

MI 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.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9104576

Date March 28, 1991

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

REFERENCE:

To: The President  
From: Dr. Asad Khailany  
Date: March 4, 1991  
Subject: Treatment of Kurdish People

WH Referral Dated: March 15, 1991  
NSCS ID# (if any): 220282

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.  
 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



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dr. Asad Khailany  
President  
Kurdish National Congress of North America  
P.O. Box 15498  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Dear Dr. Khailany:

I have for reply your March 4 letter to President Bush regarding the Kurdish issue and the situation in Iraq.

The Iraqi government's abysmal record of human rights abuses against its Kurdish minority has long been an important concern of the U.S. government. We have frequently raised this issue with the Iraqi leadership at a senior level as part of a dialogue on Iraq's human rights practices. For many years the United States has encouraged Iraq to improve its human rights record and use the country's rich oil resources to benefit all of Iraq's ethnic, religious and ideological groups, including the Kurds. However, together with Iraq's neighbors, we continue to oppose any alteration of the established borders of Iraq or Turkey.

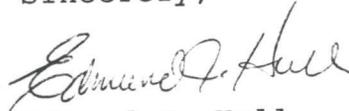
President Bush has made it clear that the U.S. government would welcome a move by the Iraqi people to push aside Saddam Hussein and establish a democratic, tolerant Iraq which respects the rights of all its citizens and lives at peace with its neighbors. It remains U.S. policy, however, not to endorse any particular opposition group or faction. The Iraqi people must determine for themselves the form and composition of their government, without interference by other states.

With regard to contacts between Kurds and Administration officials, I must point out several errors in your letter. The U.S. government does not have a policy of refusing to meet with Kurdish leaders. On the contrary, Assistant Secretary Schifter recently met with two representatives of the Kurdish American Society (including Dr. Najmaldin O. Karim, who is also an official of the Kurdish National Congress of North America). Assistant Secretary Schifter also met with Mme. Mitterrand during her stay in Washington for the conference on Kurdish human rights last month, and an official of the State Department's Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs attended that conference.

In the same week, an official of the Department's Bureau of Near East and South Asian Affairs met with an official of Amnesty International who had come to the United States to take part in the conference. Furthermore, two representatives of Kurdish organizations visiting the United States for the conference did in fact meet with officials of the Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs.

The U.S. government expects to continue contacts with Iraqi opposition organizations, including Kurdish groups, as appropriate. As in the past, we will evaluate specific meeting requests by all Iraqi opposition organizations on a case-by-case basis.

Sincerely,



Edmund J. Hull

Director

Office of Northern Gulf Affairs  
(Iran and Iraq)

9104576

T H E . W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 15, 1991

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 220282

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 4, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: DR. ASAD KHAILANY  
PRESIDENT  
KURDISH NATIONAL CONGRESS OF  
NORTH AMERICA  
POST OFFICE BOX 15498  
ANN ARBOR MI 48106

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS REGARDING THE KURDISH  
PEOPLE IN IRAQ

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

1/ DOS  
**Kurdish National Congress of North America**

P.O. Box 15498, Ann Arbor, MI 48106



Executive Committee

Professor Asad Khailany, D.Sc., President  
Professor Ahmed Uthman, D.D.S., Secretary  
Mohammed Sinjari, Treasurer

9104576

Fouad Darweesh, M.D.  
Najmaldin O. Karim, M.D.  
Saman Shali, Ph.D.  
Kakil Zibari  
Jalal Melahaji  
Delkhwaz Jaff, M.S.M.  
Awat Aliyar, Ph.D.  
Heval Shirwan, Ph.D.

March 4, 1991

President George Bush  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

I feel it is my duty as an American citizen to bring to your attention the ill advice which you have received regarding the future of the Iraqi people particularly the Kurdish people in Iraq. Let us not make any mistake that it is in U.S. interests to have a say in the reshaping of Iraq's future. Your administration's refusal to meet with Kurdish leaders and the Iraqi opposition to overthrow the regime of the dictator Saddam Hussain, whom you rightfully called the new Hitler, will force the Kurds and the opposition to seek the help of other parties who are not friendly to the U.S. This ill advised policy will make most of the Iraqi people to come to the conclusion that the aim of the U.S. was not liberating Kuwait as much as it was to destroy the Iraqi army, to eliminate its threat and to leave the Iraqi people at the mercy of Saddam Hussain. True the war is over for Saddam, but for the Iraqi people it is the beginning of a long struggle and tragedy to continue to fight against a tyrant who was created by the U.S. and other western and eastern powers, left wounded, but who has enough power to terrorize the Kurdish and Iraqi people.

What happened to our American principles? Iraqi people and Kurdish people deserve a democratic system. True such a democratic system may be considered to be a threat to undemocratic regimes in the area, but the experience after World War II proved that the only way to have long lasting stability is to establish democratic systems.

On February 27th and 28th a number of Iraqi Kurdish leaders were in Washington. They came to tell us that the Kurdish people in Iraq

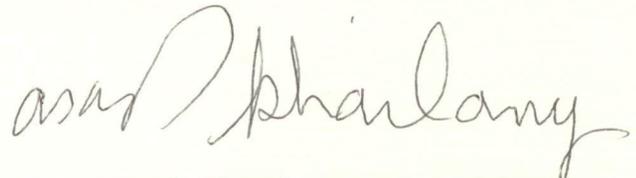
are for a democratic system in Iraq, where their national rights would be recognized within the Iraqi frame. These were clear unambiguous statements by Mr. Jalal Talabani, who represented the Iraqi Kurdistan Front, and by other Kurdish leaders, Mr. Hoshiar Zibari and Mr. Sami Rahman, who attended the conference on Kurdish human rights which was organized by Mrs. Danielle Mitterand and sponsored by the Congressional Human Rights Foundation. No administration officials attended the conference and no administration official agreed to meet with the Kurdish leaders. Even a meeting which was supposed to take place with Ambassador Shifter, the Human Rights Director of the State Department, was cancelled.

Mr. President, at a time when the hopes of the Iraqi and Kurdish people are high that the U.S. will push for establishing a democratic system in Iraq where Kurdish national rights are recognized, there are indications at the same time that we will leave Dictator Saddam Hussain in power. We pray that this is not your policy. We cannot believe that you as the leader of the free world will allow all those war criminals, Saddam Hussain, his generals, and his Baathist criminal regime, to not be punished and stay in power in Iraq. If we continue on this policy, we will end up to not have any friend in Iraq where people are thirsty to establish friendship with the US.

We believe that the U.S. should do the following:

1. Help the Iraqi opposition to overthrow the Iraqi Dictator Saddam Hussain and bring him, his generals and criminal regime to justice for their criminal acts against humanity.
2. Work toward creating an interim Iraqi government.
3. Immediately open the dialog with Kurdish leaders, and through them to have some influence on the future of Iraq for establishing a democratic system in Iraq.

Sincerely,



Dr. Asad Khailany, President

(see ID 220282)



# Kurdish National Congress of North America

P.O. Box 15498, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

## Executive Committee

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Jalal Melahaji  
Delkhwaz Jaff, M.S.M.  
Awat Aliyar, Ph.D.  
Heval Shirwan, Ph.D.

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March 13, 1991

Dear President Bush  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Kurdish american community I appeal to you to protect the Kurdish people and other Iraqi citizens in Iraq from possible catastrophic human tragedy which may happen to these people unless urgent steps are taken.

Mr. President, currently women and children are used as a human shield in the city of Kirkok, in the northern part of Iraq by Ali Hassan Majid, Saddam Hussein's newly appointed interior minister. The same person who was responsible for previous chemical weapons attack on Kurdish civilians and the destruction of Kuwait and the torturing of Kuwaiti people.

The Iraqi people's uprising against the regime of Saddam Hussein indirectly was in response to your call for the removal of Saddam Hussein, has liberated considerable area of Iraqi Kurdistan, in the northern part of Iraq and also in the Southern part of Iraq. The huge number of the Iraqi army personnel who have joined the uprising or who have been captured by the Iraqi people is beyond the capability of the uprising force to offer them food and medicine. The least that the international community can do is to extend humanitarian assistance to the Kurdish and Iraqi people through Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations. The Iraqi Kurdistan Front which is currently administering all the liberated areas in Kurdistan is capable of distributing any humanitarian aid which may be extended to them. We have historical responsibility and obligations to give the same assurances to the issues of these new hostages as we have given to the Kuwaiti and other foreign nationalities in Iraq and to extend humanitarian assistance immediately to the Iraqi people.

Sincerely,  
*Asad Khailany*  
Asad Khailany