DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 16, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE GEORGE E. BROWN JR.

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO LEAD THE U.S. IN
PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE FLEEING THE
RAVAGES OF WAR IN IRAQ AND AROUND THE WORLD

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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY  *OUTGOING
*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.
April 17, 1991

Dear Congressman Brown:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President regarding your support for U.S. leadership in the humanitarian relief effort now being conducted in Northern Iraq.

We appreciate being advised of your recommendation that the U.S. continue to take a prominent role in providing humanitarian assistance around the world. Please know that I have shared your comments with the President's national security and foreign policy advisors for their careful review.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable George E. Brown, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:JHH:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - for direct response
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI
President George Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

The United States led the United Nations and the multinational forces in the war to expel the armies of Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. However, for the Kurds and other minorities of Iraq the horrors of war and Saddam Hussein's oppression are not over. Likewise, refugees from other military struggles that our nation has been involved with--such as in Cambodia, Afghanistan, and Central America--are also in great human need.

We should fully affirm our nation's commitment to a New World Order and existing international law by taking a lead role in a multinational effort to provide humanitarian relief to the Kurds fleeing from Saddam Hussein and to other refugees in dire straits around the world.

I commend you for your order to begin airlifting supplies to the refugees in Turkey and northern Iraq. However, as you know, these efforts are merely the first drops in the bucket of the material and resettlement assistance that will be needed to adequately help in this situation.

I urge you to lead the United States in playing a major role in the provision of humanitarian assistance to people fleeing from the ravages of war and oppression across the globe. I will strongly support such a policy in Congress. Such assistance efforts fulfill a moral responsibility that we have to engage ourselves in all aspects and consequences of war, and they equally affirm the best intentions and traditions of the American people.

Sincerely,

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Member of Congress
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SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO LEAD THE U.S. IN PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE FLEEING THE RAVAGES OF WAR IN IRAQ AND AROUND THE WORLD

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COMMENTS: 

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

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 16, 1991

Dear Congressman Brown:

Thank you for your letter of April 15 to the President about the situation in the Persian Gulf.

All of us in the Administration share your deep concern and the anguish of all Americans over the brutal use of force and of repression by the government of Iraq against Kurdish and other Iraqi civilians. The President has made clear that, "We want the suffering of those refugees to stop, and in keeping with our nation's compassion and concern, we are massively helping." At the President's direction, the United States initiated in early April what soon became the largest U.S. relief effort mounted in modern military history.

This effort was and is unprecedented; the scale of the problem has proven to be even greater. Thus, President Bush, after consulting with our European partners and the UN Secretary General, announced on April 16 a greatly expanded relief effort. This new effort entails the U.S. military establishing several temporary encampments in northern Iraq where relief supplies for refugees will be made available in large quantities and distributed in an orderly way. It also provides for adequate security for the Kurds by U.S., British, and French air and ground forces. It is our hope that the responsibility for operating these facilities can be handed over in the very near future to the United Nations and international relief organizations.

As you know, the goal of the international coalition -- the liberation of Kuwait -- has been achieved. While we all agree that the Iraqi people would be better off under new leadership, it is also clear that the best interests of the United States would not be served by intervening militarily in a protracted civil war stemming from long-standing enmity between Iraqi factions. We will, however, continue to work for an Iraq in which all people would be able to return to their homes, free to live in peace.
The Administration will continue to monitor carefully the situation in Iraq and to serve as a catalyst for stability in the region. Thank you for your suggestions and for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Brent Scowcroft

The Honorable George E. Brown, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
April 30, 1991

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BREN'T SCOWCROFT

FROM: RICHARD N. HAASS

SUBJECT: Letter to Congressman Brown

Attached is the response to a letter sent by Congressman Brown addressing the refugee and humanitarian needs in the Gulf.

RECOMMENDATION

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

Ginny Daglely concurs.

Attachments
Tab I Letter to Congressman Brown
Tab II Letter from Congressman Brown
TO: BROWN, GEORGE E

FROM: SCOWCROFT

KEYWORDS: IRAQ

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO LTR FM REP BROWN RE REFUGEE & HUMANITARIAN NEEDS IN GULF

ACTION: SCOWCROFT SGD LTR

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

FILES: WH

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

HAASS

NSCP:

LOGREF: 9103011

CODES:

DUE DATE: 30 APR 91

STATUS: C

COMMENT:

DISPATCHED BY NES DATE 5/16 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB CLOSED BY: NSMEM

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