

3122

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 229981

0072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MOST REVEREND WILLIAM R. CANNON

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES VIEWS REGARDING THE SITUATION OF
THE KURDS IN IRAQ

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LEIGH ANN METZGER		ORG	91/04/17		C 91/04/22
NSC Exec. Sec.	REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
PLmetz	REFERRAL NOTE: NSC sent direct response	D	91/04/24	RH	A 91/04/25
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	91/05/10	NAN	C 91/05/14
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

TC

2

COMMENTS: WRITER IS HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD
METHODIST COUNCIL; LETTERHEAD IS FROM EMORY
UNIVERSITY, CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

NSC 9103122

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500

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.

INFORMING

DATE: APR 24 1991

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK

RE: [REDACTED]

On 4/23/91, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been identified as a contact of [REDACTED].

91 APR 24 P 1: 28

RECEIVED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9103122
RECEIVED: 26 APR 91 09

TO: CANNON, WILLIAM R

FROM: HAASS

DOC DATE: 25 APR 91
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: IRAQ
MP

PERSIAN GULF

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO CANNON LTR

ACTION: HAASS SGD LTR

DUE DATE: 30 APR 91

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
HAASS

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY RCB DATE 4/28 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSRCB

DOC 2 OF 2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9103122
RECEIVED: 26 APR 91 09

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: CANNON, WILLIAM R

DOC DATE: 09 APR 91
SOURCE REF: 229981

KEYWORDS: IRAQ
MP

PERSIAN GULF

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR EXPRESSES VIEWS RE SITUATION OF KURDS IN IRAQ

ACTION: APPROPRIATE ACTION DUE DATE: 30 APR 91 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION
HAASS

FOR CONCURRENCE
CHARLES

FOR INFO
HAYDEN
PILLING
ROSTOW
WELCH

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 25, 1991

Dear Bishop Cannon:

Thank you for your letter of April 9 to the President about the situation in the Persian Gulf.

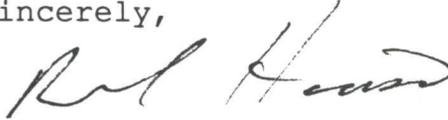
All of us in the Administration share your deep concern and the anguish of all Americans over the brutal use of force and of repression by the government of Iraq against Kurdish and other Iraqi civilians. The President has made clear that, "We want the suffering of those refugees to stop, and in keeping 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard N. Haass".

Richard N. Haass
Special Assistant to the
President and Senior Director
for Near East and South Asian
Affairs

Bishop William R. Cannon
The Plaza Towers
Apt. 12-F
2575 Peachtree Rd., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30305

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9103122

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 HAASS
002

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 91042609 APPROPRIATE ACTION
X 91042609 HAASS SGD LTR

UNCLASSIFIED

229981

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EMORY UNIVERSITY
Candler School of Theology

Atlanta, Georgia 30322

L.A. Metzger

Bishop William R. Cannon
The Plaza Towers
Apt. 12-F
2575 Peachtree Rd., N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30305

April 9, 1991

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am a strong admirer of yours and have lent stalwart support to your policy in the Persian Gulf region. I felt you were right in both Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and I rejoice and give thanks for the victory with so few casualties of war. Though I am a bishop of The United Methodist Church, I supported Desert Storm over the disagreement and protest of most of my colleagues in The United Methodist Episcopate. In this I even disagreed with my close friend, former President Jimmy Carter, who invited me to give the prayer at his inauguration and also at the opening of The Carter Center, here in Atlanta. The same is true in my reaction to the position taken by Senator Sam Nunn, whom I have known since his childhood. You can see from this that I am a Democrat, though always I reserve the right to exercise my independence as an American citizen. I voted for you in the last general election, and I think you are making a fine president and a great leader. Therefore, it is in a spirit of good will and admiration for you that I write you this letter. I am broken-hearted over what is happening to the Kurdish people in Iraq. When we initiated the ceasefire, I thought at the same time we had achieved disarmament on the part of the Iraqi army and thereby destroyed its capability to wage war. I now see that this was not the case and that Saddam Hussein still has the power and the means to wreak havoc on his own people and eventually on the people's of other nations once our troops are withdrawn. It could mean that as soon as we leave he will invade Kuwait again, and Desert Storm will have been abortive. I think Saddam Hussein and his entire government should be removed and that he and his colleagues should be brought to justice and tried as war criminals. We saved Kuwait, but we are permitting the slaughter of innocent people within Iraq. This, to me, is unconscionable.

I appreciate your hesitancy to interfere in the internal affairs of a nation, but in my judgement we have already interfered by allowing Saddam Hussein to retain his war machine and

President Bush
April 9, 1991
page two

thereby to prevent his people from freeing themselves from his tyranny. To be fair, the least we can do is to arm the Kurd's so they can resist him and to destroy his planes and helicopters so that he cannot murder those who are trying to escape from him. Shall not the greatest and most idealistic nation on the earth today, the United States of America, do what is right? Be assured of my good wishes and prayers as you make decisions relating to peace and stability in Iraq.

Sincerely,



William R. Cannon
Honorary President of
The World Methodist
Council

WRC:skt

P.S. I feel so deeply about this since I served a five-year term as president and chairman of The Executive Council of The World Methodist Church, which consists of 65 autonomous Methodist's denominations, in 90 different countries with a membership of almost 60,000,000 people. I have visited in this part of the world and know some of the people.