INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JAMES J. DELMONT

SUBJECT: OFFERS HIS COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS RE THE PRESENT SITUATION IN IRAQ, IMMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS AND THE PRESIDENT'S RUNNING MATE IN '92

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ROUTE TO:
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)

ACT CODE YY/MM/DD

DATE

TYPE RESP D YY/MM/DD

C COMPLETED

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JOHN SUNUNU

REFERRAL NOTE: ORG 91/04/17 ______ C 91/04/17

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**COMMENTs:**

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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: ___ ___ ___

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

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**ACTION CODES:**
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION
*A-ANSWERED
*C-COMMENT/RECOM
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE
*X-INTERIM REPLY*

**DISPOSITION**

**OUTGOING**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**TYPE RESP=INITIALS**

**OF SIGNER**

**CODE = A**

**COMPLETED = DATE OF**

**OUTGOING**

**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 10, 1991

Mr. John Sununu
Advisor to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sununu:

I write as an individual — and as a "Bush for President 1980" supporter and an active Republican.

Three things concern me:

Our failure, after a brilliant diplomatic and military victory, to carry the campaign to its logical conclusion — the overthrow of the present Iraqi government. The present human catastrophe is tarnishing our battlefield victory and is working against the best interests of the Republican Party and of the United States. Under UN mandate, we should complete our task and oversee free elections in a new federal Iraq. I cannot understand our present course of action.

Second, our strange reluctance to take in larger number of Soviet Jews. These well-educated Europeans should be welcomed, both for their technical skills and their ready use of English. Pushing them off on Israel is creating extreme difficulties for the Soviet emigrants, for Israel and for peace prospects in the region. A huge country like ours can much more easily absorb a million Soviet Jews than little Israel, which is using them as pawns in their struggle with the Palestinians.

Finally, I believe the President erred when he selected Sen. Dan Quayle as his running mate in 1988. Recent polls here and elsewhere show little confidence in Sen. Quayle (though he has done a fine job as vice president). The Senator lacks the confidence of the American people — Secretary Baker, Secretary of Defense Cheney and General Colin Powell all seem to have strong public support. Any one of these three men would strengthen the 1992 ticket and provide an attractive front-runner in 1996. Keeping the White House Republican is essential — and a strong ticket may help us win at least one house of Congress in '92 and keep it in '96.

In each of these examples, it seems to me an initial mistake in policy was made; in each case, it is not too late to remedy the error. A Gallup Poll today indicates that most Americans feel that our military effort was stopped too soon. That was certainly my feeling at the time. The really dreadful loss of life among anti-Hussein Iraqis can still be averted and Hussein brought to the bar of justice — but it will take resolve to do it.

Again, I write as an individual, not as a representative of the newspaper.

Yours sincerely,

James J. Delmont
Editorial Writer
Adjunct Professor of History, University of Nebraska