INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN


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<th>ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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| FREDERICK MCCLURE       | ORG    | 91/04/18
| REFERRAL NOTE: 09 DOS  | FM     | A 91/04/19 LJ |
| REFERRAL NOTE:          | A      | 91/05/01 LJ |
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIAL INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 ___ ___

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

**ACTION CODES: **
* *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

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 19, 1991

Dear Ileana:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President detailing the concerns of your constituent, Mr. Jerry Bauman, regarding U.S. policy toward Iraq and the Kurdish refugees.

We appreciate being apprised of your constituent's perspective in this important matter. In an effort to be of assistance, I have forwarded your letter to the appropriate officials 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 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:JHH:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - for direct response
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 16, 1991

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

Dear President Bush:

I am writing to express the concerns of a constituent in my Congressional district, Mr. Jerry Bauman, who is distressed over the United States position in Iraq.

Mr. Bauman has expressed to me his concerns with Iraq's population. Mr. Bauman feels that the United States helped to create this situation in Iraq and now we have abandoned the Kurds and the rest of the Iraqi citizenry.

Mr. Bauman states that the United States told Iraq that we would shoot the Iraqi aircraft but Iraq has used helicopter gunships, napalm, gas, and acid, and the United States has yet to intervene.

Mr. Bauman would appreciate it if you could address his concerns.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

cc: Mr. Jerry Bauman
27401 S.W. 165th Avenue
Homestead, FL 33031
DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLEILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN


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*KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.*
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9107691

Date June 10, 1991

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

REFERENCE:

To: The President

From: Congressman Dleana Ros-Lehtinen

Date: April 16, 1991

Subject: Abandoning the Kurds

WH Referral Dated: May 1, 1991
NSCS ID# (if any): 230811

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

[Signature]
Dear Ms. Ros-Lehtinen:

I am replying to your April 16 letter forwarding the concerns of your constituent, Mr. Jerry Bauman, regarding the situation in Iraq.

We share your concern for the welfare of the Iraqi people suffering in the aftermath of the popular uprising against Saddam Hussein's regime. For that reason, the United States is playing a leading role in an unprecedented international relief effort for Iraqi refugees and displaced persons.

Through Operation Provide Comfort, U.S. military forces have acted on a massive scale to meet the needs of well over half a million Iraqis--mostly Kurds--forced to flee their homes. Logistical assistance provided by U.S. and coalition forces has enabled thousands to begin the journey back from remote mountain camps to their homes in Iraq. These humanitarian efforts continue, even as United Nations organizations deploy personnel and resources throughout the country and begin assuming responsibility for the relief campaign our forces have initiated so successfully.

The United States and our coalition partners launched Operation Desert Storm with strong international support and clear, limited objectives defined by the UN Security Council and specifically endorsed by the Congress. Becoming involved in an Iraqi civil war to overthrow Saddam Hussein or remake the Iraqi government was never among the aims defined by the Administration, the Congress, the United Nations or the coalition.

The President has been extremely clear and consistent on this point. While we favor the replacement of Saddam Hussein by a more representative and responsible leadership, neither the President nor any other U.S. official ever offered U.S. military support for a civil uprising.

The Honorable
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen,
House of Representatives.
For many years, the U.S. government has encouraged the Iraqi government to improve its abysmal human rights record and use Iraq's rich oil resources to benefit all of the country's ethnic, religious and ideological groups. We are sensitive to the legitimate concerns of the Kurds and Iraq's other minorities. However, the U.S. government opposes any change in the established borders of Iraq, Iran or Turkey, nor do we envisage direct U.S. intervention to shape a successor regime. As President Bush has said, these are matters for the Iraqi people.

Nevertheless, the United States has a clear interest in the course of events in Iraq. Saddam Hussein has a great deal to answer for, and President Bush has made it clear that the U.S. government will not have normal relations with Iraq as long as Saddam remains in power. We will continue to support humanitarian relief efforts until UN authorities are in place throughout Iraq and refugees and displaced persons can return to their homes in safety and dignity. More broadly, U.S. policy will continue to advance our vision of a democratic, tolerant Iraq which respects the rights of all its citizens, including Kurds, and lives at peace with its neighbors.

Sincerely,

Janet G. Mullins
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs
TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 230811

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 16, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: THE HONORABLE ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON DC 20515


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

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Member of Congress

IRL/dlp

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