DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MARK O. HATFIELD

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT A SENIOR OFFICIAL TO COORDINATE THE EMERGENCY EFFORTS IN IRAQ AND ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR THE RELIEF EFFORT

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)

FREDERICK MCCLURE

REFERRAL NOTE: 99 OMB

REFERRAL NOTE: 99 NSS

REFERRAL NOTE: 99 DOS

REFERRAL NOTE: PP UNITE

ACTION

ACT CODE DATE YY/MM/DD TYPE RESP D YY/MM/DD

ORG 91/04/18 FM A 91/04/23

R 91/05/06

I 91/05/05

I 91/05/06

I 91/05/03 C 91/05/07

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1220 ___ ___

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

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 22, 1991

Dear Mark:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President recommending that he appoint a senior level staff person to coordinate the emergency efforts to assist the Iraqi refugees.

We appreciate being apprised of your interest in working with the Administration to provide adequate relief funds for these refugees. Please know that I have shared your comments with a number of the President's advisors on this matter so that they, too, are aware of your suggestions.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM:TSB:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to OMB - for Direct Response
bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - FYI
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI
bcc: w/ copy of inc to Presidential Personnel - FYI
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  

Dear Mr. President:

The tragic circumstances facing Iraqi refugees have galvanized one of the most massive relief efforts ever. Your leadership in the humanitarian response to this crisis is appreciated and undoubtedly has prevented an even greater loss of life.

I write to ask your urgent consideration of a proposal regarding the United States’ response: I urge you to appoint a senior official to coordinate the emergency efforts. Because several Federal agencies are involved in this crisis, I believe that it is critical that one person, with your full confidence, have the authority to make rapid decisions. The United Nations has appointed Prince Sadruddin Aga Kahn to a similar role to coordinate the international effort and it is expected that this arrangement will save some precious time, and therefore lives.

Secondly, I urge you to work with Congress to ensure that adequate funds are available to pay for the relief effort. As the Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will do everything I can to assist your Administration in crafting legislation to provide adequate refugee relief funds.

Reports from the Turkish and Iranian borders, along with those from inside Iraq itself have revealed hardship which is almost unimaginable. Our international response has been built from the bottom up, first providing such basics as food, shelter and medicine. With these initial efforts now underway our country must contemplate the next steps in the relief efforts. I urge you to continue exercising leadership as we move into the next phase of the Iraqi relief effort.

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United States Senator

MOH: jm
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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *
  *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 *

OUTGOING *CORRESPONDENCE: *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *OF SIGNER *CODE = A *COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING *

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*OF SIGNER*
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OMB #36117
W.H. #230875

SUBJECT: Sen. Mark Hatfield Letter re Iraqi Refugees

c:State/USIA Branch Official File
State/USIA Chron
WH Liaison 91
DO/Murr 91
LA
NSIA/Howard
IAD/DuSault
IAD/Sasser

State/USIA Branch:BSasser:fvs:5/13/91
Rev.5/15.91
Honorable Mark O. Hatfield  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Hatfield:

Thank you for your letter to the President expressing your concern for the tragic circumstances facing Iraqi refugees and displaced persons and suggesting how the U.S. might respond to this crisis. OMB has worked closely with the appropriate foreign affairs agencies on these issues and I have been asked to respond to your concerns.

With regard to financing the refugee crisis, as you know, the Administration has submitted a supplemental request to cover Department of Defense, State Department and AID expenses related to refugees in the Persian Gulf. We deeply appreciate the expeditious action by the Senate Appropriations Committee in guiding a supplemental bill through floor consideration.

As to your suggestion that a U.S. government coordinator be named, we believe that full coordination is clearly taking place at both policy and operational levels. In addition to regular NSC Deputies' Committee policy meetings, the State Department chairs daily meetings to coordinate the U.S. response to the Iraqi crisis with other agencies and international relief organizations. Despite major obstacles, our efforts appear to be working. Over time, we would expect responsibilities for refugee assistance to be shifted to the United Nations.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. E. Howard  

Robert E. Howard  
Associate Director  
National Security and  
International Affairs
THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

MAY 6, 1991

TO: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

REMARKS: ATTN: ALSO REFERRED TO STATE

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 230875

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 17, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: THE HONORABLE MARK O. HATFIELD
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON DC 20510

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT A SENIOR
OFFICIAL TO COORDINATE THE EMERGENCY EFFORTS
IN IRAQ AND ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE FUNDS ARE
AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR THE RELIEF EFFORT

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
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