INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. KHALIL E. JAHSHAN

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RESTORE NORMALCY AND STABILITY IN IRAQ AND PROTECT THE KURDS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)

LISA BATTAGLIA

REFERRAL NOTE: 99 DOS

REFERRAL NOTE: LISA BATTAGLIA

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

ACT CODE YY/MM/DD

ORG 91/05/06

DATE YY/MM/DD

91/07/22

RESP TYPE DD MM/DD

C 91/05/21

C 91/07/22

COMMENTS: HELD FOR DISPOSITION

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) __________ (B) __________ (C) __________

*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *CORRESPONDENCE: *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED *OF SIGNER *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *CODE = A *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * *OUTGOING *
*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.
July 16, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR LISA BATTAGLIA

FROM: Shirley M. Green

SUBJECT: State Department Draft

Attached is a draft you had requested from State Department for a April 3 letter! Frankly, it is so old and so much has happened since he wrote it, I don't know what is the best approach to take -- especially since it is a pretty pitiful draft. I have tried to clean it up a little.

If you have had further correspondence or conversation with NAAA since April, probably it is better to just close this out and file it without further response, especially since they know all that we have done for the Kurds since the time they wrote. One other possibility (in case you haven't had any contact with them) is a dodge we use sometimes when something has fallen through the cracks: Begin the letter by thanking him for his April 3 letter and then saying something like: "I apologize for this very late response; unfortunately, your letter was inadvertently attached to another document, and we have just discovered it."

Anyway, all yours to handle however you think appropriate.
MEMORANDUM FOR SHIRLEY GREEN

FROM: WILLIAM F. SITTMAN

SUBJECT: Response to Jahshan Letter on Iraq

Attached at Tab A is a proposed response to a letter from Mr. Khalil E. Jahshan to the President on the situation in Iraq (Tab B).

Attachment
Tab A  Response to Mr. Jahshan
Tab B  Incoming Correspondence
Dear Mr. Jahshan:

I have been asked to reply to your April 3 letter to the President on the situation in Iraq and the plight of the Kurdish people. I apologize for the delay in this response.

The United States is playing a lead role in the international community's unprecedented humanitarian 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 in the aftermath of the popular uprising against Saddam Hussein's regime. Logistical support 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 efforts continue, even as United Nations organizations deploy personnel and resources throughout the country in preparation for taking over the relief campaign our forces have initiated so successfully.

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. Even though we believe the Iraqi people would be better served by new leadership, we do not envisage direct U.S. military intervention to shape a successor regime. As President Bush has said, these are matters best left to 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 in Iraq under the auspices of UN authorities. More broadly, U.S. policy will continue to advance the vision of an Iraq that respects the rights of all its citizens, including Kurds, and lives at peace with its neighbors.

Sincerely,
TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 235604
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 3, 1991
TO: PRESIDENT BUSH
FROM: MR. KHALIL E. JAHSHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS
SUITE 300
2033 M STREET, NW.
WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RESTORE NORMALCY AND STABILITY IN IRAQ AND PROTECT THE KURDS

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
April 3, 1991

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The National Association of Arab Americans and its members across the United States are gravely concerned about the tragic developments that are taking place in Iraq. We are in wholehearted agreement with your Administration about the need to preserve the territorial integrity of Iraq against potential dismemberment and appreciate your commitment to Iraq's reemergence as a vital and vibrant member of the world community. There can be no substitute for the eventual emergence of a democratic Iraq, which will truly represent all ethnic and political groups in the country.

At the same time, the wholesale slaughter of innocent civilians that has been taking place in the south of Iraq and in the Kurdish areas cannot be tolerated. While U.S. personnel inside Iraq have been responsive to the humanitarian needs of those refugees who have fled the carnage during the rebellion, it is inconceivable that we should remain totally passive as hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians are rendered into refugees. There has to be a balanced approach between direct military intervention and total apathy.

We know that you personally share the abhorrence of the excesses that have been committed inside Iraq. Nevertheless, U.S. calls for Iraqis to overthrow the government of Saddam Hussein played an important part in the inception of the revolt, and the United States must move within an international framework to prevent a continuation of the widespread and brutal atrocities that are currently taking place. Furthermore, our leading role within the coalition against Iraq places a special responsibility on our shoulders in terms of meeting the humanitarian needs arising from this crisis.
President George Bush  
April 3, 1991  
Page Two

We believe that the best opportunities for success in this regard lie within the framework of the United Nations. We urge you to bring the full weight and authority of the United States government to bear in the U.N. Security Council to authorize and implement an international humanitarian effort to end the slaughter and displacement of Iraqi civilians. While we agree that the world community should not interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign state or attempt to dictate the type of government that a people should choose, the wholesale slaughter of innocent civilians cannot be dismissed as an "internal matter."

Mr. President, you have wisely said that the United States did not win the war in order to lose the peace. If peace is to be won, the world community must move without delay. We urge you to continue to exercise the bold leadership you have displayed during the Gulf crisis by seizing the initiative in the framework of the United Nations to restore normalcy and stability in Iraq.

Sincerely,

Khalil E. Jahshan  
Executive Director
INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. KHALIL E. JAHSHAN

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RESTORE NORMALCY AND STABILITY IN IRAQ AND PROTECT THE KURDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROUTE TO:</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE/AGENCY</td>
<td>(STAFF NAME)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISPOSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT CODE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Battaglia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REFERRAL NOTE: 99 DOS

COMMENTS: HELD FOR DISPOSITION

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

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

************************************************************

*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 * *

************************************************************

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.
MEMORANDUM FOR SHIRLEY GREEN

FROM: WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

SUBJECT: Response to Jahshan Letter on Iraq

Attached at Tab A is a proposed response to a letter from Mr. Khalil E. Jahshan to the President on the situation in Iraq (Tab B).

Attachment
Tab A  Response to Mr. Jahshan
Tab B  Incoming Correspondence
Dear Mr. Jahshan:

I have been asked to reply to your April 3 letter to the President on the situation in Iraq and the plight of the Kurdish people.

The United States is playing a lead role in the international community's unprecedented humanitarian 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 in the aftermath of the popular uprising against Saddam Hussein’s regime. Logistical support 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 efforts continue, even as United Nations organizations deploy personnel and resources throughout the country in preparation for taking over the relief campaign our forces have initiated so successfully.

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. Even though we believe the Iraqi people would be better served by new leadership, we do not envisage direct U.S. military intervention to shape a successor regime. As President Bush has said, these are matters best left to 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 in Iraq under the auspices of UN authorities. More broadly, U.S. policy will continue to advance our vision of an Iraq that respects the rights of all its citizens, including Kurds, and lives at peace with its neighbors.

Sincerely,
July 11, 1991

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

THROUGH: RICHARD N. HAASS

FROM: SANDRA CHARLES

SUBJECT: Response to Jahshan Letter on Iraq Issues

Attached at Tab I is a memo to Shirley Green forwarding a proposed response (Tab A) to a letter from Mr. Khalil E. Jahshan, Executive Director of the National Association of Arab Americans (Tab II). State provided the original draft reply.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memo to Shirley Green at Tab I.

Attachments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tab</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tab I</td>
<td>Memo to Shirley Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tab A</td>
<td>Response to Mr. Jahshan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tab B</td>
<td>Incoming Correspondence from Mr. Jahshan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOR: Mr. William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary
National Security Council Staff
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: Mr. Khalil E. Jahshan

Date: April 3, 1991

Subject: Urges the President to restore normalcy and stability in Iraq and protect the Kurds

WH Referral Dated: May 29, 1991
NSCS ID# (if any): 235604

ACTION TAKEN:

X 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

UNCLASSIFIED
TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 235604

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 3, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. KHALIL E. JAHSHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS
SUITE 300
2033 M STREET, NW.
WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RESTORE NORMALCY AND STABILITY IN IRAQ AND PROTECT THE KURDS

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
April 3, 1991

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The National Association of Arab Americans and its members across the United States are gravely concerned about the tragic developments that are taking place in Iraq. We are in wholehearted agreement with your Administration about the need to preserve the territorial integrity of Iraq against potential dismemberment and appreciate your commitment to Iraq's reemergence as a vital and vibrant member of the world community. There can be no substitute for the eventual emergence of a democratic Iraq, which will truly represent all ethnic and political groups in the country.

At the same time, the wholesale slaughter of innocent civilians that has been taking place in the south of Iraq and in the Kurdish areas cannot be tolerated. While U.S. personnel inside Iraq have been responsive to the humanitarian needs of those refugees who have fled the carnage during the rebellion, it is inconceivable that we should remain totally passive as hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians are rendered into refugees. There has to be a balanced approach between direct military intervention and total apathy.

We know that you personally share the abhorrence of the excesses that have been committed inside Iraq. Nevertheless, U.S. calls for Iraqis to overthrow the government of Saddam Hussein played an important part in the inception of the revolt, and the United States must move within an international framework to prevent a continuation of the widespread and brutal atrocities that are currently taking place. Furthermore, our leading role within the coalition against Iraq places a special responsibility on our shoulders in terms of meeting the humanitarian needs arising from this crisis.
President George Bush
April 3, 1991
Page Two

We believe that the best opportunities for success in this regard lie within the framework of the United Nations. We urge you to bring the full weight and authority of the United States government to bear in the U.N. Security Council to authorize and implement an international humanitarian effort to end the slaughter and displacement of Iraqi civilians. While we agree that the world community should not interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign state or attempt to dictate the type of government that a people should choose, the wholesale slaughter of innocent civilians cannot be dismissed as an "internal matter."

Mr. President, you have wisely said that the United States did not win the war in order to lose the peace. If peace is to be won, the world community must move without delay. We urge you to continue to exercise the bold leadership you have displayed during the the Gulf crisis by seizing the initiative in the framework of the United Nations to restore normalcy and stability in Iraq.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Khalil E. Jahshan
Executive Director
Ken Hill
Bill Sittmann
Bob Gates
Brent Scowcroft
Bill Sittmann
Situation Room
West Wing Desk
NSC Secretariat

A = Action
I = Information
D = Dispatch
R = Retain
N = No further Action

cc: VP Sununu Other

Should be seen by: (Date/Time)

COMMENTS

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:
TO: GREEN, S

FROM: SITTMANN

KEYWORDS: IRAQ, MP

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO JAHSHAN LTR ON IRAQ

ACTION: SITTMANN SGD MEMO

DUE DATE: 09 JUL 91

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

FILES: WH

NSCP:

LOGREF:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHARLES

EXECSEC

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY __________ DATE 7/12 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB CLOSED BY: NSMJT DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOC</th>
<th>ACTION OFFICER</th>
<th>CAO</th>
<th>ASSIGNED</th>
<th>ACTION REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001</td>
<td>HAASS</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>91070509</td>
<td>MEMO WFS TO SHIRLEY GREEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>003</td>
<td>SITTMANN</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>91071118</td>
<td>FOR SIGNATURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>004</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>91071213</td>
<td>SITTMANN SGD MEMO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: JAHSHAN, KHALIL E

KEYWORDS: IRAQ

SUBJECT: LTR URGES PRES TO RESTORE NORMALCY & STABILITY IN IRAQ & PROTECT KURDS

ACTION: MEMO WFS TO SHIRLEY GREEN

DUE DATE: 09 JUL 91

STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

HAASS

FOR CONCURRENCE

CHARLES

FOR INFO

HAYDEN

HULL

ROSTOW

COMMENTS:


DISPATCHED BY ______________________ DATE ____________ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB CLOSED BY: DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED