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WHORM Category Name: Iraq, Republic of

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INCOMING
THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 30, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. NORMAN E. BARTH

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL TO ALLOW IRAQ TO SELL SOME OF ITS OIL TO BUY NEEDED FOOD AND MEDICINE

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COMMENTS: SEE ID 258006 FYI

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4800 ___ ___

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING
*CORRESPONDENCE: *TYPE RESP=INITIALS
*DRAFT RESPONSE *OF SIGNER *CODE = A
*FURNISH FACT SHEET *COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* * * *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY* * * *
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September 5, 1991

Norman E. Barth
Executive Director
Lutheran World Relief
Lutheran Center
390 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Dear Mr. Barth,

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your recent letter supporting the president's proposal to allow Iraq to sell some of its oil to buy needed food and medicine. Please be rest assured that your comments have been shared with the appropriate individuals and will be given the greatest review and consideration.

Again, let me thank you on behalf of the President for sharing your thoughts with us on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jim Schaefer
Assistant Director
Office of Public Liaison
July 24, 1991

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to support your move to consider allowing Iraq to sell some of its oil to buy desperately needed food and medicine.

The goal of the United States during and after the Gulf War has not been to impose suffering upon Iraqi civilians. Unfortunately, such suffering has resulted from the United Nations sanctions on Iraq, as documented in the Ahtisaari report, and more recently the Harvard University medical team. That report stated that at least 170,000 children under five will die from disease and hunger, consequences of war. If the Iraqi government were allowed to provide the means to care for these children, this suffering could be prevented.

Your indication that the United States might consider limited sales of Iraqi oil to ease human suffering is most welcome. I encourage you, Mr. President, to take the steps necessary to achieve that end. This humane decision would go far in easing the suffering of millions of Iraqi civilians.

Respectfully yours,

Norman E. Barth
Executive Director