

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 19, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND PAUL H. STREGE

PLBATT

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO TRANSFER A PORTION  
OF IRAQI STATE ASSETS HELD IN THE U.S.  
TO INTERNATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS FOR  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND FOOD ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LISA BATTAGLIA	ORG	91/08/19		C 91/10/05 TC
<del>COKELL</del> REFERRAL NOTE:	<del>A</del>	<del>91/08/22</del>		<del>C 91/08/27</del>
99DOS REFERRAL NOTE:	R	91/09/10	LJ	A 91/09/16
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4500 4800

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

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|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *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.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

**TRANSMITTAL FORM**

S/S 9116306

Date September 19, 1991

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush

From: The Reverend Paul H. Strege and Bernie D. Marquardt

Date: August 13, 1991

Subject: Urges the President to transfer a portion of Iraqi State  
assets held in the U.S. to international relief organizations  
for emergency medical and food assistance to Iraq

WH Referral Dated: September 10, 1991

NCS ID# (if any): 263522

       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.
- X   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:

*for Sandra Sautis*  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

**UNCLASSIFIED**



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 16, 1991

Mr. Paul H. Strege,  
Executive Director  
Ms. Bernie B. Marquardt  
Executive Assistant  
Christians Linked in Mission  
P.O. Box 20138  
St. Louis, MO 63123-0338

Dear Mr. Strege and Ms. Marquardt,

The White House has asked the Department to respond to your letter of August 13 to the President urging funding of emergency medical and food assistance to the people of Iraq using frozen Iraqi assets.

The President emphasized from the beginning of the Gulf crisis last fall that we had no quarrel with the Iraqi people, and this remains U.S. policy. It is not the intent of the U.S. government or the international community that the Iraqi people should pay the price for the aggressive and irresponsible actions of the present Iraqi leadership. It is essential, however, to maintain all possible economic and political pressure on the Iraqi regime to meet its obligations under the United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

The present Iraqi leadership has consistently shown little concern for the welfare of the Iraqi people, particularly groups, such as the Shi'a in the south and Kurds in the north, which have been at odds with the central government. Indeed, international relief agencies have documented recent government diversion of available food stocks away from areas in greatest need of relief.

We continue, however, to support humanitarian relief efforts as necessary. In consultation with coalition partners and other members of the United Nations Security Council we supported United Nations Resolution 706 that authorized the Iraqi government to sell, under international supervision, \$1.6 billion of its oil and purchase food and medicine. This resolution requires equitable distribution of food and humanitarian supplies throughout the country under close international monitoring.

Previously, the United States, along with our coalition partners, played a leading role in aiding Iraqi civilians, particularly the hundreds of thousands forced to flee their homes in the wake of the popular uprising against Saddam Hussein last spring. The U.S. government pledged \$61.3 million to the UN appeal for relief operations through the end of August 1991, and recently announced a substantial new contribution to private/voluntary organizations conducting supplemental feeding programs and immunization campaigns concentrating on women and children.

Thank you for sharing the views of your organization.

Sincerely,



Ronald E. Neumann  
Director  
Office of Northern Gulf Affairs  
(Iran and Iraq)

9116306

T H E   W H I T E   H O U S E   O F F I C E

REFERRAL

SEPTEMBER 10, 1991

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 263522

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED AUGUST 13, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: THE REVEREND PAUL H. STREGE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CHRISTIANS LINKED IN MISSION  
POST OFFICE BOX  
ST. LOUIS MO 63123

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO TRANSFER A PORTION  
OF IRAQI STATE ASSETS HELD IN THE U.S.  
TO INTERNATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS FOR  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND FOOD ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ

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



*hon. Ballagha*

263522

9116306

*An ecumenical ministry for justice and hope*

8343 Lonkar Drive • P.O. Box 20138 • St. Louis, MO 63123-0338

Rev. Paul Strege  
Executive Director  
314/352-6979

Ms. Bernie Marquardt  
Executive Assistant  
314/638-2553

August 13, 1991

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Chicago, IL  
Dr. Arthur Simon, Past Pres.  
Bread For the World  
Washington, D.C.

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

Dear President Bush,

Out of humanitarian concerns and on behalf of up to 170,000 sick and starving children in Iraq, we urge you to exercise your prerogative of transferring a portion of Iraqi state assets held in the U.S. to international relief organizations such as UNICEF to use for emergency medical and food assistance.

This action would be in accord with House Concurrent Resolution 168 and Senate concurrent Resolution 54.

Regardless of the original cause of the war, we believe innocent Iraqi children should not be victimized as a result of the war and destruction in which the U.S. was also a partner.

Out of Christian concern,

Sincerely yours,

Paul H. Strege

and

Bernie B. Marquardt

cc: Senator Christopher Bond  
Senator John Danforth  
Rep. Richard A. Gephardt  
Bread for the World

