

ID# 326805

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 08, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. RON POST

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT'S HELP TO MAINTAIN A  
TOKEN U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN NORTHERN IRAQ  
SO THEY CAN CONTINUE SUPPLYING THE KURDISH  
PEOPLE

C0072

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
DEPARTMENT OF STATE	RL	TAZ ORG	92/05/08 12		AD 06/09
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS: THIS ORGANIZATION WAS NAMED THE 403RD  
DAILY POINT OF LIGHT

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4800 4630

MI 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 *			*

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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.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT****TRANSMITTAL FORM**S/S 9210278Date June 10, 1992

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

**REFERENCE:**

To: President Bush  
From: Mr. Ron Post  
Date: April 30, 1992  
Subj: U.S. Military Presence in Northern Iraq

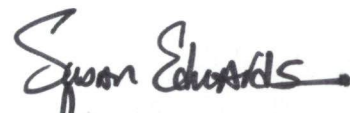
WH Referral Dated: May 12, 1992  
NSCS ID# (if any): 326805

☐ 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:**

  
to Director  
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 9, 1992

Mr. Ron Post  
President  
Northwest Medical Teams  
International, Inc.

Dear Mr. Post:

I have been asked to reply to your April 30 letter to the President urging that the U.S. maintain a military presence in northern Iraq.

The military personnel you mentioned at Zakho are not just American, but British and French as well, a reflection of the wide international coalition, including Turkey, which opposed Saddam Hussein. The Military Coordinating Commission (MCC) has been there continuously since last year's refugee relief efforts. The MCC serves as our military-to-military channel to the Iraqis, and also as a channel to the people of northern Iraq, including Kurdish representatives. At present, we have no plans to change these arrangements.

The fine work done by Northwest Medical Teams is widely recognized and appreciated. We thank you for letting us hear from you.

Sincerely,

John B. Piazza  
Colonel, USAF  
Director

Office of International Security Operations  
Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs

RB 9210278-Post Ltr-U.S. Presence in N. Iraq

Drafted: PM/ISO:DDean  
SEISODD 139 5/16/92 x7-3136

Clear: NEA/NGA:AMisenheimer  
EUR/SE:DTarpey  
IO/SR:RWanner

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

REFERRAL

MAY 12, 1992

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~ 9210278

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 326805

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 30, 1992

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

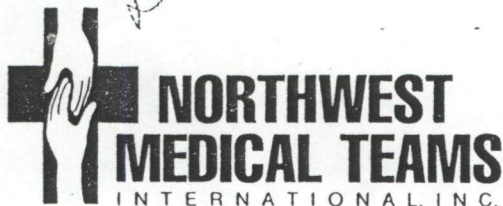
FROM: MR. RON POST  
PRESIDENT  
NORTHWEST MEDICAL TEAMS  
INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
POST OFFICE BOX 10  
PORTLAND OR 97207

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT'S HELP TO MAINTAIN A  
TOKEN U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN NORTHERN IRAQ  
SO THEY CAN CONTINUE SUPPLYING THE KURDISH  
PEOPLE

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



536800  
P.O. Box 10  
Portland, Oregon 97207  
(503) 644-6000  
FAX: (503) 644-9000

April 30, 1992

9210278

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

Dear President Bush,

As a way of introduction, let me say that our organization received your 403rd "Daily Point of Light." What a delight that was for us!

I am writing to urge you and the Department of Defense to maintain a token military presence in Northern Iraq.

The contract between the UN and the Iraqi Government elapses in June. There is an overwhelming fear among the Kurdish people that when the UN leaves at that time, the Allied presence will also end.

I just returned from Northern Iraq where Northwest Medical Teams has been helping the Kurdish people since May 1991. This was my third visit.

We have distributed 90% of the medical relief supplies in Northern Iraq. We have two American volunteer families living there. They, along with our Kurdish workers, are vigorously helping to rebuild the Kurdish structure destroyed by Saddam Hussein.

These people are desperate for our help. There is an outbreak of disease in the animals that are urgently needed for their food supply. Without help, the animals will die. Already many people have contracted severe illnesses from eating bad meat.

Northwest Medical Teams has started the only veterinary clinic there using two Kurdish veterinarians. They are inoculating as many animals as possible.

The chicken farms were wiped out by the war. It is difficult to buy chickens or eggs in Northern Iraq. This has resulted in a protein deficiency among the children.

*We help them today . . . so they may have tomorrow.*

Northwest will attempt a small pilot program of re-introducing chickens through a self help loan program. We hope to expand as this pilot program is successful.

However, all of these efforts will be in vain if our military presence leaves. Saddam's forces are only six miles away from the Kurdish check point. I have seen them. They have a strong build up of forces and tanks.

I am 100% sure they will be in all the Northern cities within hours after our military leaves. The Kurds will then once again flee to the mountains for their lives. The same process will then be repeated and thousands will die.


We must not let this certain tragedy happen when it can be avoided. It is my understanding the agreement also depends on the Turkish Government allowing our presence there.

I am convinced that all we need is to maintain our present involvement, which is the Military Coordinating Center located in Zakhu and manned by only ten military personnel. This, with a daily air fly overhead, keeps Saddam's forces away.

This operation, which gives these people hope, is a minimal expense. Without this protection the Kurds will have certain pain by Saddam.

I, therefore, beg you to exert all your efforts to not let a tragedy occur again. Please help save Kurdistan.

Sincerely,



Ron Post  
President