

ID# 328854

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 072

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 19, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JOSEPH A. PLONSKI

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES VIEWS CONCERNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE KURDISH POPULATION  
IN IRAQ

✓PLSCHA

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JIM SCHAEFER		ORG	92/05/19		C 92/11/16
REFERRAL NOTE:					
✓ coker		A	92/7/16		C 92/07/21
REFERRAL NOTE:					
✓ 99 DOS		R	92/7/16		A 92/07/18
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

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 *			*

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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.



UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9215578

Date August 4, 1992

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush  
From: Mr. Joseph A. Plonski  
Date: May 13, 1992  
Subj: Expresses views concerning the human rights  
violations against the Kurdish population in Iraq.

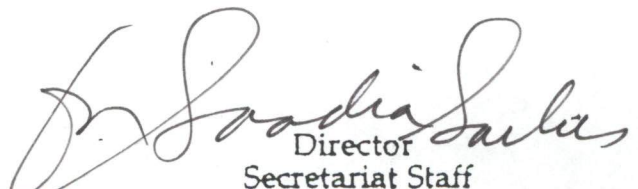
WH Referral Dated: 7/24/92  
NSCS ID# (if any): 328854

☐ 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:

  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 28, 1992

Joseph A. Plonski  
National Confederation of  
American Ethnic Groups, Inc.  
728 Ridge Street  
Newark, NJ 07104

Dear Mr. Plonski:

Thank you for your letter of May 13 to President Bush concerning the plight of Kurds in Northern Iraq.

We share your concern for the Kurds, and for many years, the U.S. government has pressed the Iraqi government to improve its abysmal human rights record. We have also encouraged the use of Iraq's rich oil resources to benefit all of the country's ethnic, religious and ideological groups. Although we are sensitive to the legitimate concerns of the Kurds and Iraq's other minorities, we do not envisage direct U.S. intervention to shape a successor regime. As President Bush has said, these matters are for the Iraqi people.

Nevertheless, the United States has a clear interest in the course of events in Iraq. We have maintained US and coalition forces (British, French and Turkish) in Turkey since April 1991 to protect civilians in northern Iraq. We continue to press Iraq to abide by UN Security Council Resolution 688 and to cease repression of its civilian population throughout the country. Saddam Hussein has a great deal to answer for, and President Bush has made it clear that the U.S. government will not resume normal relations with Iraq as long as Saddam Hussein remains in power.

Because we are sensitive to the Iraqi regime's threats against the Kurds and Iraq's other ethnic and religious groups, we strongly support international humanitarian relief efforts throughout Iraq. More broadly, U.S. policy will continue to advance our vision of a democratic, tolerant Iraq which respects the rights of all its citizens, including Kurds, and one that lives at peace with its neighbors.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure:  
Correspondence returned

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

REFERRAL

JULY 24, 1992

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 328854

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 13, 1992

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. JOSEPH A. PLONSKI  
PRESIDENT, NEW JERSEY CHAPTER  
NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF AMERICAN  
ETHNIC GROUPS, INC.  
728 RIDGE STREET  
NEWARK NJ 07104

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES VIEWS CONCERNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE KURDISH POPULATION  
IN 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





328 854

**NATIONAL CONFEDERATION  
of AMERICAN ETHNIC GROUPS, Inc.**  
NEW JERSEY ☐ CHAPTER

728 RIDGE STREET ☐ NEWARK, N.J. 07104  
TEL. (201) 485-9025

Joseph A. Plonski  
President

Myron Leskiw  
Vice President

Victor K. Sestokas  
Secretary

May 13, 1992

*J. Schaefer*  
Honorable George Bush, President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We understand that the Kurdish population in Iraq have been hassling that population for many, many years.

The State Department was aware of what the Iraqis were doing with their aerial bombs filled with poison gas as far back as 1983. However, it was the Reagan Administration policy not to rock the moslem boat. He rejected our calling Saddam a murderer. He wanted an ally rather than an enemy in that area so the poor Kurds were permitted to die in their own cities.

May we ask, now that you are in possession of "Proof Positive" what action you plan to take against Iraq?

Respectfully,

*Joseph A. Plonski*  
JOSEPH A. PLONSKI

JAP:lc