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WHORM Category Code: CO083
WHORM Category Name: Kuwait, State of

Document Number: 220033 to 228131 **Entire Category Processed**
Alpha File Name:

The University of Michigan
OFFICE OF ETHICS AND RELIGION
2408 MICHIGAN UNION - Ph 313-764-7442
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48109

Robert H. Hauer, Director

(see ID 220033)

C0083

¹⁶
DOS President George Bush -

I share this material with you, not so much for any observations I make about my recent visit to Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza, but so that you might read the Statements of our Christian colleagues with whom I met - Bishop Samir Kafity and the Heads of Churches in Ramallah. There was also an official Delegation from the Church of England staying at St. Georges that was specifically addressed by the Ramallah clergy.

Re: See Baker seeing the West Bank + Gaza by helicopter.

I assure you the Palestinian reality looks very different from the ground.

Sincerely,

(Re) Robert Hauer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
ORM OPTICAL DISK NETWORK

ID# 220033

___ Hardcopy pages are in poor condition (too light or too dark).

___ Remainder of case not scanned.

___ Oversize attachment not scanned.

___ Report not scanned.

Enclosure(s) not scanned.

___ Proclamation not scanned.

___ Incoming letter(s) not scanned.

___ Proposal not scanned.

___ Statement not scanned.

___ Duplicate letters attached - not scanned.

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___ No incoming letter attached.

___ Only tracking sheet scanned.

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Comments:



الكنيسة الأسقفية في القدس والشرق الأوسط
كليساى اتمنى و قدس (اورشليم) و خاور ميانه

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JERUSALEM & THE MIDDLE EAST

The President-Bishop
and the Bishop in Jerusalem
The Rt. Rev. SAMIR KAFITY, D.D.

P.O.Box 19122, Jerusalem 91 191
P.O.Box 1248, Jerusalem 91 019
Tel. : (02) 287708, (02) 282096
Telex: 26480 ICCJR IL

February 1991

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JERUSALEM & THE MIDDLE EAST

After the second of August 1990, I issued a message of peace, rejecting the acquisition of land by force, advocating rather the resolution of disputes by mutual agreement, and stating that action in the Gulf crisis should not be determined by the control of oil, and that escalation would not lead anywhere!

Later, on 20 September 1990 I made a presentation to the American House of Bishops, showing that all crises in the Middle East are interrelated, connected and need one moral standard in dealing with all aspects of all these crises. One crisis should not be singled out over against the others. Neither should one be made a priority on the agenda of crises. Nor should double standards be employed in dealing with them.

Following these two statements, I issued a call to the Justice and Peace Commission in the Diocese of Washington entitled, "Peace and only Peace" based on Leviticus 24:22, "You shall have one rule for the native and the sojourners says the Lord your God". Not two rules, or two standards or two systems, but one.

On the eve of the war, all the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem sent two cables, one to Mr Saddam Hussein and the other to Mr George Bush asking them to opt for peace and only peace, and not to resort to violence to resolve these crises.

When the war broke out with 28 nations allied against Iraq in the "Desert Storm" campaign, I preached a sermon entitled "Stilling the Storm". I made a plea to wage war on hunger, poverty, and disease from which millions continue to suffer. The Presiding Bishop of ECUSA, the Archbishop of the Anglican Church in Canada and the President-Bishop of Jerusalem and the Middle East published their statements against the war through the Anglican Information Network along with the Archbishop of Canterbury's statement to the House of Lords and also the statement of the Bishops' of the Church of England. Later the Church in Japan condemned the war on the basis of John 12:35, "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth". World War I led to World War II. World War II created more problems. It created cold wars and regional wars. The one-time allies during World War II, instantly became enemies after the war.

Several individual diocesan conventions in the USA rejected the war option and called for peace and an immediate ceasefire.

Yet the storm went on till it reached its 43rd day, six weeks and 100 hours before President Bush announced a ceasefire and before Iraq accepted all UN resolutions regarding the crisis. It brought exchange of missiles, 104,000 air sorties dropping explosives equivalent to six times the size of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Thousands of civilians and military have been killed. Many more injured, thousands have become homeless. Islam has been hurt. Divisions have split the Arabs. The Palestinian people have been under curfew or house arrest, leading to shortage of food and medicines - a stormy and abnormal situation for them. There has been talk of a new order from the sole world power. But war is not the way to effect this new world order. If a new world order in the Middle East is to come about, it is the people who live here who must decide the shape and substance of that new order by peaceful means.

There are in the Middle East many wounds and a variety of weapons. The Middle East has become a laboratory for the live testing of modern destructive weapons at a cost of at least 54 billion dollars and many, many casualties - casualties who are God's children regardless of their colour or creed.

We are deeply hurt that in 43 years the United Nations has failed to implement 100 resolutions on Palestine/Israel and to provide a healing and reconciliatory presence. As we are also deeply disappointed that UN was not allowed to send 3 delegates to investigate "Protection for the Palestinians" after the Al-Aqsa tragedy and the martyrdom in the Islamic Holy Place of 21 martyrs on one day.

We welcome Christian visitors coming to express pastoral concern for the Church here which is living in an ocean of suffering due to the failure of the United Nations to implement the resolutions on Palestine/Israel. We are deeply grateful for your visits and your friendship.

Anglicans have opted for the peaceful solution of "Two States" as described in the Statement of Lambeth 1988 unanimously approved by 445 bishops. The "Two State Solution" was also approved by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA in 1988 in Detroit, Michigan. Later the Palestinian National Council issued this "Two State Solution" and the Declaration of Independence on 15 November 1988 in Algiers. All these actions - the Christian initiative for peace and the Palestinian initiative, seem to be congruent.

I believe an excellent way to start the Decade of Evangelism within the Anglican Communion would be by expressing solidarity and personal concern through a pastoral visit on the issue of Palestine and Israel. Our Lord's call to the disciples was: "Come and see . . ." We are glad you've come to see . . . Please hear . . . and if you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.



+ Samir Kafity

+ Samir Kafity
President-Bishop

PEACE CONFERENCE

Based on our first-hand experience of the critical situation in the occupied territories, we call upon the U.S. government to support immediately the convening of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations. We believe that a solution to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict must be found before lasting peace will come to the Middle East.

BAKER'S VISIT

The Delegation calls upon US Secretary of State. James Baker, to meet with the Palestinian leadership, including official representatives of the PLO, in his visit to the region.

It was clear to us that negotiations over the heads of the Palestinians and for an alternative Palestinian leadership would be non-starters in any movement towards a peaceful and just resolution for Palestine and the Palestinians.

Out of my interest in, and work with, religious communities, I had an opportunity to meet with leadership of all the Christian communities in Ramallah and also with Bishop of Jerusalem. Samir Kafity. I close with quotes from two recent statements.

FROM HEADS OF CHURCHES IN RAMALLAH

"We condemn the biased position and double standard of treatment and the selective way of implementing United Nations Resolutions. The Palestinian people have been suffering for decades. We didn't see that enthusiasm to implement U.N. Resolution No. 181 of the year 1947 (Pertaining to the acceptance of two states in Palestine), and U.N. Resolution No. 194 of the year 1948 (Pertaining to the right of return of the Palestinian People). The United States called upon the Palestinians to accept Resolutions No. 242 and 338. The Palestinians accepted these resolutions three years ago, but we failed to see the West eager to implement these Resolutions either."

FROM BISHOP KAFITY, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JERUSALEM

"Anglicans have opted for the peaceful solution of "Two States" as described in the Statement of Lambeth 1988 unanimously approved by 445 bishops. The "Two State Solution" was approved by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA in 1988 in Detroit, Michigan. Later the Palestinian National Council issued this "Two State Solution" and the Declaration of Independence on November 15, 1988 in Algiers. All these actions - the Christian initiative for peace and the Palestinian initiative, seem to be congruent" (My emphasis - RHH)

FOR MYSELF: on the basis of observations over the past 30 years, visits to Israel and the Occupied Territories, West Bank & Gaza, and residence for a time with a family in a Gaza refugee camp

Without justice for the Palestinians there can be only more wars.

Without justice for the Palestinians there can be no real peace for Israel.

I believe that we have a moment in history, that may not come again, to do our utmost to strive for a peaceful and just solution for Palestine and the Palestinians. This means, for the Palestinian People:

- An end to the Occupation
- An Independent Palestinian State
- Security for the State of Israel

Delegation Members at the Press Conference 4 Mar 91, East Jerusalem

Jeanne Butterfield: Chair, North American Coordinating Committee for Non-Governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine.

Lois Kenagy: Mennonite; Sponsored by Christian Peacemakers.

Marilyn Neimark: Professor, Baruch College/CUNY; Sponsored by International Jewish Peace Union (NYC Chapter).

Jan Palmer: Assistant Minister, Lakeview Presbyterian Church, Chicago.

Don Wagner: Middle-East Coordinator, Mercy Corps International.

Robert H. Hauert: University of Michigan, Office of Ethics and Religion

Some Conclusions:

CURFEW-RELATED DAMAGE

We were shocked and outraged by the devastation wrought on the Palestinian community as a result of the Israeli imposed curfew. In particular, we are gravely concerned about the destruction of the occupied territories' economy. Equally important, we deplore the damage done to the agricultural, medical, and educational sectors.

Keep in mind that this has been a hard curfew of 40-50 days.

Economy: No access to work inside Israel; No production from Palestinian industry; No agricultural production. The general economy nears zero.

Agriculture: Without access to care for crops and livestock the losses here have been near absolute. The agricultural sector is below zero.

Hunger: No work, no money, no food purchased; No access to crops or livestock; No access to food stores or resources in adjoining villages.

Medical Care: Required travel permits restricted medical personnel and people needing care; Curfew restricted access to UNRWA clinics in camps.

Education: Nothing very new here; All education has suffered over the past several years, particularly so during the Intifada. The universities are closed from December 1987 until now. (Bethlehem is open but Zonal travel restrictions prevent free access by students.)

Zonal Control: A system of zonal checkpoints has been established to control the population once the curfew is 'softened'.

ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

The Palestinian leadership in the occupied territories continues to support a political solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It supports a solution based on existing United Nations resolutions, security guarantees for Israel and the principles of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP

The overwhelming majority of Palestinians continue to support the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and consider it as their sole, legitimate representative. It is clear that all negotiations concerning the region must include the PLO.

The Reverend Robert H. Hauert, Member NACC Delegation, West Bank and Gaza
Director, Office of Ethics and Religion, University of Michigan, (313) 764-7442
Member, Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, (313) 663-1870

Emergency Delegation to Israel and the Occupied Territories (2/24-3/4).

The North American Coordinating Committee for Non-Governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine arranged for an emergency observer delegation to visit the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This was in response to requests from NGO groups on site and from the Palestinian leadership, as all were feeling deserted by international observers at a time when they were under an unprecedentedly severe shoot-on-sight curfew imposed by the Israeli authorities on Palestinian residents, in force since, and even before, hostilities broke out on January 17. This was the first group to visit since mid-January.

The curfew was the most severe ever yet imposed by the Israeli authorities on the occupied territories and has devastated all sectors of the Palestinian economy in addition to completely freezing all normal activities in the occupied territories, including food distribution and medical services, leaving the Palestinian population there vulnerable to starvation and disease. The problem of hunger was such that UNRWA was moved to act beyond their mandated responsibility, to serve only the refugee population, and arrange a one-time food distribution to the entire population of the West Bank and Gaza. This was, of course, done without Israeli cooperation and often encountered resistance. For example, a planned distribution at a refugee camp would be blocked when a camp curfew was not lifted, contrary to an earlier agreement. Our visit to Gaza on Sunday, March 2, was their first day out of curfew since it was imposed at the beginning of hostilities.

During the week, the delegation visited both East and West Jerusalem, Nablus, Tulkarm, Ramallah, Tel Aviv, and the Gaza Strip. We met with UNRWA staff and were hosted in refugee camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip by UNRWA administrators. We talked with Palestinians from many sectors of society including leading political personalities and members of grass roots organizations. In addition, the delegation met with Israeli NGOs and representatives of the Israeli peace movement.

Most Venerable Delegation of The Church of England
to
The Holy Land

In compliance with our Christian conscience, we, Heads of Churches in Ramallah do express disappointment and deep sorrow for the declaration of war by Western Leaders in Our Middle East Region this year. The logic of war and violence is alien to our Christian faith and Gospel teachings, especially when we see that this war was aiming at civilians and vital targets rather than at military and strategic targets.

The population of four and a half million citizens in Baghdad are threatened by fatal and communicable disease due to the unprecedented bombardment of the basic utilities of innocent civilians such as sewage, water sources, electricity plants, communications, and underground shelter.

We were shocked by the position of the Church of England represented by its Archbishop in declaring "just war" in the Middle East. We were also astounded by its negative attitude toward justice and peace during the General Assembly of the WCC in Canberra, Australia.

This attitude reflects an explicit neglect of the Palestinian Christian Church, its call and witness for love, reconciliation, justice, and peace in The Land of Resurrection.

We condemn the biased position and double standard of treatment and the selective way of implementing United Nations Resolutions. The Palestinian people have been suffering for decades. We didn't see that enthusiasm to implement U.N. Resolution No. 181 of the year 1947 (Pertaining to the acceptance of two states in Palestine), and U.N. Resolution No. 194 of the year 1948 (pertaining to the right of return of the Palestinian People). The United States called upon the Palestinians to accept resolution No. 242 and 338. The Palestinians accepted these resolutions three years ago, but we failed to see the West eager to implement these resolutions either.

We are afraid that the war of 1991 will negatively affect the relations between the different faiths in the area which we endeavoured to build through centuries, and between the East and the West.

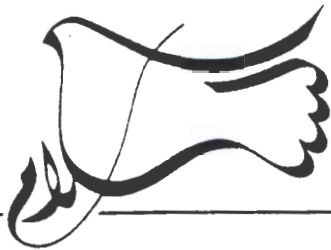
Our request as heads of Churches in Ramallah is for your Church to exert more effort in order to achieve just and everlasting peace to this afflicted region whose people have perpetually suffered for decades and who have been deprived of the right of self-determination.

We are sending a copy of this statement to the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem The Rt. Rev. Samir Kafity for his respective attention.

"Blessed are the peacemakers". (Math. 5:9)

Saturday the 2nd of March 1991

This Statement was delivered to an official delegation from the Church of England: Bishop Simon of Coventry, a representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Mr. Wilkes from the Church Missionary Society.



FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST

TO: President George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker, UN Ambassador Thomas Pickering:

As the United Nations acts to resolve the Persian Gulf crisis, we urge the U.S. to revive its efforts to ensure the peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a solution to which is necessary for peace and stability in the entire Middle East region.

We call on you to take concrete steps to ensure the immediate convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East, mandated by the United Nations General Assembly repeatedly since its Resolution 38/58(C) in 1983, and reaffirmed most recently in Resolution 44/42 of 6 December 1989. It is only through such a peace conference that occupation can end, freedom and independence be achieved, and peace and security guaranteed for all states in the region.

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This petition is initiated by the North American Coordinating Committee (NACC) of Non-Governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine, which is currently composed of: the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC); the Canadian Council of Churches; the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD); the International Jewish Peace Union (IJPU); the Middle East Justice Network; NAJDA: Women Concerned About the Middle East; the National Lawyers Guild; the Near East Cultural and Educational Foundation of Canada (NECEF); the Palestine Solidarity Committee; the Presbyterian Church, USA; and the United Methodist Church Board of Global Ministries.
Return this petition to: NACC, 1747 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington D.C. 20009. Phone: (202) 319-0757.

Resolution No. 38/58 A, B, C, D, E of 13 December 1983

ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE: ENDORSING THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT STATE, THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING, THE NEED FOR A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND THE RIGHT OF ALL STATES IN THE REGION TO EXISTENCE WITHIN SECURE AND INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/120 C of 10 December 1981, in which it decided to convene, under the auspices of the United Nations, an International Conference on the Question of Palestine on the basis of its resolution ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980,

Recalling also its resolution 37/86 C of 10 December 1982 in which it, *inter alia*, reiterated the responsibility of the United Nations to strive for a lasting peace in the Middle East through a just solution of the problem of Palestine,

Having considered the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine,¹⁶⁵ held at Geneva from 29 August to 7 September 1983,

Convinced that the Conference, in adopting by acclamation the Geneva Declaration on Palestine¹⁶⁶ and the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights,¹⁶⁷ made an important and positive contribution to the attainment of a comprehensive, just and durable peace in the Middle East through a just solution of the problem of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict,

Conscious of the importance of the time factor in achieving a just solution of the problem of Palestine,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine;

2. Endorses the Geneva Declaration on Palestine, adopted by acclamation on 7 September 1983;

3. Welcomes and endorses the call for convening an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the following guidelines:

(a) The attainment by the Palestinian people of its legitimate inalienable rights, including the right to return, the right to self-determination and the right to establish its own independent State in Palestine;

(b) The right of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, to participate on an equal footing with other parties in all efforts, deliberations and conference on the Middle East;

(c) The need to put an end to Israel's occupation of the Arab territories, in accordance with the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and, consequently, the need to secure Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem;

(d) The need to oppose and reject such Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and any *de facto* situation created by Israel as are contrary to international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly the establishment of settlements, as these policies and practices constitute major obstacles to the achievement of peace in the Middle East;

(e) The need to reaffirm as null and void all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, including the expropriation of land and property situated thereon, and in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel;

(f) The right of all States in the region to existence within secure and internationally recognized boundaries, with justice and security for all the people, the *sine qua non* of which is the recognition and attainment of the legitimate, inalienable rights of the Palestinian people as stated in subparagraph (a) above;

4. Invites all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, as well as the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other concerned States, to participate in the International Peace Conference on the Middle East on an equal footing and with equal rights;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, urgently to undertake preparatory measures to convene the Conference;

6. Invites the Security Council to facilitate the organization of the Conference;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to report on his efforts no later than 15 March 1984;

8. Decides to consider at its thirty-ninth session the report of the Secretary-General on the Conference.

Adopted at the 95th plenary meeting:

In favour: 124

Against: 4

Australia, Canada, Israel, United States.

Abstentions: 15

Absent: 13

Voting Record for G.A. Resolution 44/42, of 6 December 1989:

Adopted at the 76th Plenary Meeting:

In favour: 152

Against: 3

Dominica, Israel, United States

Abstentions: 1

Absent: 2

Not Voting: 1

¹⁶⁵United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21.

¹⁶⁶*Ibid.*, chap. I, sect. A.

¹⁶⁷Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 083

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 13, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. GAIL BOLING

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING REPORTS OF
VIOLENT REPRISALS AGAINST PALESTINIANS AND
OTHER NON-NATIONALS IN KUWAIT SUSPECTED OF
COLLABORATING WITH THE IRAQI FORCES

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D
DEPARTMENT OF STATE		ORG	91/03/13		
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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AG 11/10 DJ

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4900 4400

II 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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9104503

Date April 17, 1991

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

REFERENCE:

To: The President

From: Ms. Gail Boling

Date: March 7, 1991

Subject: Palestinians in Kuwait

WH Referral Dated: March 14, 1991

NSCS ID# (if any): 220033

 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:

Patricia Hubs
for Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

April 17, 1991

Ms. Gail Boling
Administrator
North American Coordinating Committee (NACC)
1747 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Ms. Bolling,

I have been asked to reply to your letter of March 7, addressed to the President, regarding the situation of Palestinians in Kuwait. Your concerns are certainly understandable. While some Palestinians helped the Kuwaiti resistance, there is still a widespread perception among the Kuwaiti populace that Palestinians actively assisted Saddam Hussein's troops in their brutal occupation of Kuwait. Given the horrors visited upon Kuwaiti families by Iraqi forces, the potential for retribution is great.

The U.S. Government raised this potential danger repeatedly with the Government of Kuwait prior to the outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf, making clear that extra-judicial reprisals and widespread summary expulsions would not be acceptable to us. We have said that the rights of all residents of Kuwait should be respected, and that individuals should not be allowed to take the law into their own hands, regardless of the suffering which they or their loved ones may have experienced. In addition, members of the U.S. Army Reserve 352nd Civil Affairs Command worked closely with officials from a variety of Kuwaiti government agencies to plan for the restoration of lawful civil authority in Kuwait, with those concerns in mind.

These approaches were at least partially effective. Indications to date are that there has been no systematic attempt to harass Palestinians by Kuwaiti authorities. To the contrary, Kuwaiti officials have investigated those isolated incidents of abuse which have occurred, and worked to prevent the widespread reprisals which many had feared. The Kuwaiti Army has been pulled back out of the city, and the police have resumed their responsibilities for civil order. Ministry of Justice officials have been placed in police and military stations to establish a civilian watchdog presence there.

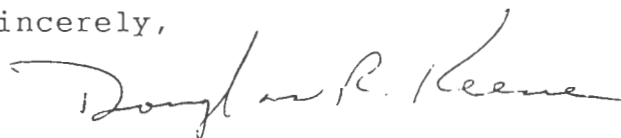
We also welcome the government's authorization of unfettered access for the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) to all detention sites, so that the ICRC may monitor the procedures and conditions under which detainees are held, and identify any unacceptable treatment.

Our Ambassador travelled to the Kuwait-Iraq border to observe conditions with the Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs. The minister made clear it is not government policy to engage in mass deportations. The Kuwaiti government is investigating the reports of extra-legal deportations. Government policy is that those who had a legal right to live in Kuwait prior to August 2 will be permitted to return.

We expect the government of Kuwait to continue its efforts to suppress vigilantism. The U.S. Embassy will continue to investigate independently allegations of abuse and, if it has confirmed reports, raise our concerns with the Kuwaiti government. The U.S. military has no role enforcing internal security within Kuwait, although a few members of the Civil Affairs Command continue to advise Kuwaiti officials on issues relating to the restoration of basic services to the populace.

Given the intensity and breadth of the Kuwaiti people's animosity toward those regarded as having cooperated with the Iraqi occupiers, the potential for private retribution remains. We will continue to work to see that that is avoided, through continuing cooperation among the U.S., the government of Kuwait, and the international community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas R. Keene". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Douglas R. Keene
Director
Arabian Peninsula Affairs

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

REFERRAL

9104503

'91 MAR-14 10:48 AM

MARCH 14, 1991

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 220033

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 7, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MS. GAIL BOLING
ADMINISTRATOR
NORTH AMERICAN COORDINATING
COMMITTEE (NACC)
1747 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON DC 20009

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING REPORTS OF
VIOLENT REPRISALS AGAINST PALESTINIANS AND
OTHER NON-NATIONALS IN KUWAIT SUSPECTED OF
COLLABORATING WITH THE IRAQI FORCES

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

220033
NACC 3761

NORTH AMERICAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE
for Non-Governmental Organizations on The Question of Palestine

105
7

Chairperson: Jeanne A. Butterfield
Administrator: Gail Boling

1747 Connecticut Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20009
Tel 202-319-0757; Fax 202-319-0746

7 March 1991

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

I write on behalf of the North American Coordinating Committee for Non-Governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine to express our grave concern about reports of violent reprisals against Palestinians and other non-nationals in Kuwait suspected of collaborating with the Iraqi occupation forces. Particularly disturbing are reports that American Special Forces Troops who are patrolling Kuwait City with the Kuwaiti military have witnessed brutalization of Palestinians and other non-nationals by the Kuwaiti military and have not intervened to bring them to a halt. We ask the State Department to remind the Kuwaiti government that the Kuwaiti military is responsible for the safety and well-being of all residents of Kuwait and that any interrogation of suspected collaborators -- whether by the Kuwaiti military or by Kuwaiti resistance forces -- should be carried out with respect for the rule of law and due process. We also ask that the State Department clarify for us exactly what the role of the U.S. military in Kuwait is right now.

In addition, there was awareness by the U.S. military prior to the liberation of Kuwait that violent reprisals were likely to take place against Palestinians and other non-nationals. This likelihood was explicitly acknowledged in an unclassified 200-page Pentagon planning document detailing plans for Kuwait's post-war reconstruction prepared by the 352nd Civil Affairs Command in Riyadh, as reported by the Pacific News Service on 1 March 1991 and in the Village Voice of 5 March 1991. Given that this danger was recognized in advance, what measures were taken, if any, to prevent such reprisals and why have they not been effective?

Finally, National Public Radio reported on 6 March 1991 that the Kuwait government intended to deport 10,000 Palestinians within 24 hours. We ask that the State Department again intercede with the Kuwaiti government to see that any Palestinians or other non-nationals slated for deportation be given fair trials before being expelled from the country.

The reports of violent reprisals have appeared in the following sources:

1. The Independent (London), "Kuwait Palestinians Face Gunmen's Revenge," by Robert Fisk, 4 March 1991:

A. Report that American Special Forces accompanied Kuwaiti military units driving "12 armored vehicles into the Palestinian Hwali district, shooting in the air, ordering Palestinians to close their shops and beating civilians who fell into their hands."

B. Reports that "gangs of armed men are stopping cars in Kuwait City with Kalashnikov rifles left behind by the Iraqis, apparently searching for Palestinians. Little attempt has been made by the Kuwaiti or Saudi army to prevent the activities of these gunmen, many of whom claim, doubtfully, to be members of the Kuwaiti resistance movement."

C. Reports that as many as 400 Palestinian young men have been kidnapped from their homes by armed Kuwaitis over the past three days.

D. Report by Independent reporter Robert Fisk that he and reporter Colin Smith of the Observer tried to intervene with Kuwaiti soldiers beating a Palestinian boy on a bicycle. American "Special Forces troops accompanying the Kuwaitis did nothing to help." When asked by Fisk why he allowed the Kuwaitis to beat civilians, the American officer in charge replied: " 'You having a nice day? We don't want your sort around here with your dirty rumors. You have a big mouth. This is martial law. Fuck off.' " Fisk reports that "U.S. officers at the American Embassy in Kuwait City confirmed that the troops involved were from the Special Forces when The Independent provided them with the serial number of their Humvee military vehicle."

2. New York Times, "Palestinians in Kuwait Reported Shot and Beaten," by Donatella Lorch, 6 March 1991:

A. Reports of between three to six confirmed Palestinian execution victims brought to Mubarak al-Kabir Hospital (killed by single bullet to the head).

B. Reports of Kuwaiti soldiers manning checkpoints in Palestinian neighborhoods pulling people out of cars and beating them. One report of a Palestinian being beaten into confessing membership in the PLO.

C. Reports of Kuwaiti soldiers keeping armed guard in the hospital over a Palestinian victim whose face required 55 stitches (although weapons are banned in the hospital). One report of a hospital worker being beaten, kicked and dragged out at gunpoint to a prison, where his family finally located him.

3. New York Post, "Terror for Innocent Palestinians as Kuwait's Resistance Fighters Run Wild," by Mike McAlary, 6 March 1991:

A. Report of bodies of four Palestinians discovered by American soldiers. The victims had been shot in the head and castrated.

B. Report of an Egyptian whose teeth had been knocked out and arm lacerated by Saudi soldiers.

C. Reports by officials of the Mubarak al-Kabir Hospital that they have treated at least 80 injured Palestinian men in the last five days.

D. Report by an ambulance driver of the Mubarak al-Kabir hospital who picked up the body of a 29-year-old Palestinian shot in the head.

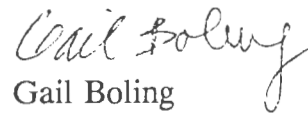
E. Report of a 16-year-old Palestinian with two broken arms who was treated at the Mubarak al-Kabir Hospital and then taken away by Kuwaiti resistance fighters. He reported that he was beaten into confessing membership in the PLO.

4. The Independent (London), "Saddam Has Left. But the Horrors Are Not Finished," by Tim Kelsey, 3 March 1991:

A. Eyewitness account of the roadside execution of a Sudanese man by Kuwaiti resistance fighters and the rape and taunting of his wife, who was stripped naked and fired at before her husband was shot before her eyes.

Given the urgency of this matter, we would greatly appreciate your response at your earliest possible convenience.

Sincerely,



Gail Boling
For the NACC