INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 22, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JIM SAMUELS

SUBJECT: URGES THE SELECTION OF MINORITY BUSINESSES IN THE REBUILDING OF KUWAIT

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ACTION                   DISPOSITION
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ROUTE TO:                ACT    DATE     TYPE    C    COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY            CODE YY/MM/DD RESP    D YY/MM/DD
OFFICE/AGENCY
(STAFF NAME)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
REFERRAL NOTE: ATTN: GRC ORG 91/03/22

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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

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

*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.
MAY 23 1991

Mr. Jim Samuels
Executive Director
Civil Rights Commission
P.O. Box 6645
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801

Dear Mr. Samuels:

Thank you for your letter to President Bush regarding opportunities for minority companies in the rebuilding of Kuwait.

The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), in conjunction with the Department's International Trade Administration (ITA) Gulf Reconstruction Center, has been working to ensure opportunities for minority business participation in the reconstruction of the Persian Gulf region. MBDA has established a Gulf Reconstruction Desk and a hot line (202-377-1962) to assist minorities in this effort.

We have contacted many major corporations offering MBDA's assistance in providing data on qualified minority vendors. We are encouraged by their favorable support to include minority business in contracting opportunities.

ITA and MBDA are working with the Government of Kuwait to develop a data base of potential vendors. Vendors interested in being included in the data base should complete a PROFILE and Kuwait Emergency Recovery Program form and return them to the addresses shown. Copies of the forms are enclosed for your information. Also enclosed is a press release from the Kuwaiti Government confirming its intent to do business with minority companies.

Finally, I would recommend that minority businesses contact the Minority Business Development Center (MBDC) in their area for overall guidance and support in their effort to expand their business domestically as well as internationally. A list of MBDCs is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Joe Lira
Director

Enclosures
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: [Signature]
FROM: Mail Analysis
Room 58, OEOB
456-6600

If you are unable to respond, please return to:

[Signature]
TO: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
ATTN: CRC

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 223086

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 4, 1991

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. JIM SAMUELS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE U.S.  
CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION  
POST OFFICE BOX 6645  
ST. THOMAS VI 00801

SUBJECT: URGES THE SELECTION OF MINORITY BUSINESSES IN THE REBUILDING OF KUWAIT

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
March 4, 1991

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

Dear President Bush:

It is with a great deal of pride and joy that I am writing you this letter to thank you for a job well done in the crisis in the Gulf. Your unswerving dedication to do the right thing in freeing Kuwait without any compromise is greatly appreciated by people all over the world. Here in the Virgin Islands where a great amount of our young men and women are on duty in Operation Desert Storm, the parents and loved ones I know are breathing a great sigh of relief now that the hostilities are over and the troops will be returning safely back home.

I also wish to commend you personally on your very positive speech concerning African-American soldiers in the history of this great country of ours. I do believe it was one of the most positive statements that I have heard in quite awhile and should go a long way to help ameliorate the divisiveness in our country.

On that subject, I read in USA Today where American Corporations are receiving contracts totaling seventy-five million dollars with a further potential of a total of sixty billion dollars to rebuild Kuwait. With this in mind I am hoping that you would remind these Corporate Powers that the war was won by a truly diversified group of American men and women of all races and ethnic groups, and their
President George Bush

March 4, 1991

hiring practices should reflect the same.

Once again, thank you on behalf of my family and the people of the Virgin Islands. My regards to Mrs. Bush also, as we almost share the same birthdate -- mine is June 9th. If possible, please send an autographed picture for my office.

With warmest regards,

JIM SAMUELS
Executive Director

P.S.: After dictating the above, due to a family emergency, Director Samuels had to leave the office; however, before leaving, he requested that this letter be forwarded to you as soon as possible.