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Series: Subject File - General
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WHORM Category Code: CO163
WHORM Category Name: Turkey, Republic of

Document Number: 185890
Alpha File Name:
DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 26, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE STEPHEN J. SOLARZ

SUBJECT: EXPRESS CONCERN REGARDING THE ADEQUACY OF THE U.S. RESPONSE TO TURKEY'S GRAVE ECONOMIC NEEDS AS A RESULT OF THE PERSIAN GULF CRISIS

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COMMENTS: Letter sent to [Name Redacted]

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 11 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 1240

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

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* 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.
October 23, 1990

The Honorable George Bush
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

We write to you as a bipartisan group of members of Congress who are deeply concerned about the adequacy of the U.S. response to Turkey’s grave economic needs as a result of the Persian Gulf crisis.

We don’t think it’s an exaggeration to state that Turkey’s actions thus far have been magnificent. Specifically, without Turkey’s willingness to shut-off the Iraqi oil pipeline, at tremendous cost to Turkey in terms of badly needed foreign exchange revenues, it would not have been possible to impose effective economic sanctions against Iraq. Under such a scenario, the United States would have been faced with the difficult choice of either utilizing force against Iraq or acquiescing in the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait. Fortunately, Turkey’s willingness not only to adhere to sanctions but to take the lead in imposing them has given the sanctions option credibility, and made it less likely that force will have to be used to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

During his recent trip to Washington, President Ozal requested that the United States increase Turkey’s textile quota, in order to increase Turkey’s foreign exchange earnings and thus partially offset the losses incurred by closing the Iraqi pipeline. In light of Turkey’s courageous response to Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait, which has provided a renewed demonstration of Turkey’s continuing strategic significance, even in the post-Cold War era, we believe that this request should be considered favorably.

In addition, we understand that in the context of a discussion of the textile quota issue, President Ozal also expressed an interest in negotiating a free trade agreement with the United States. We would hope that this request could also be explored seriously.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cordially,

[Signature]

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Member of Congress

MICHAEL G. OXLEY
Member of Congress

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JIM MOODY
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JAMES V. HANSEN
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FRANK HORTON
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MARVIN LEATH
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JOHN P. MURTHA
Member of Congress
October 29, 1990

Dear Congressman Solarz:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President, cosigned by 11 of your colleagues, expressing your concerns about the economic hardships facing Turkey as a result of its willingness to shut down the Iraqi oil pipeline.

We appreciate being apprised of your views on this matter and knowing of your support for President Ozal's request for an increase in Turkey's textile quota to help offset the losses incurred by closing the Iraqi pipeline. Please know that I have shared your comments with the President. Additionally, I have taken the liberty of providing the President's foreign policy advisors with your remarks so that they, too, are aware of your recommendations.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Stephen J. Solarz
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:SLM:emu  (11FDMG)
(Pipe.hpf)

bcc: w/copy of inc to NSC - for direct response
bcc: w/copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI
bcc: w/copy of inc to USTR - FYI
bcc: w/copy of inc to Dept. of Commerce - FYI
TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: SOLARZ, STEPHEN J

KEYWORDS: TURKEY
PERSIAN GULF
ECONOMICS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN RE ADEQUACY OF US RESPONSE TO TURKEYS GRAVE ECONOMIC NEEDS AS A RESULT OF PERSIAN GULF CRISIS

ACTION: NFAR PER BURNS
DUE DATE: 19 NOV 90
STATUS: C

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FOR CONCURRENCE
FOR INFO

COMMENTS:

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ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT

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DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION
BURNS

FOR CONCURRENCE
CHARLES
HAASS
LAMPELY
LUNDSAGER

FOR INFO
GATES
GOMPERT
HAYDEN
PILLING
SCOWCROFT

COMMENT:

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE-TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

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