FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)
Series: Subject File - General
Scanned/Unscanned: Scanned

WHORM Category Code: ND018
WHORM Category Name: Weapons - Ordinance - Munitions

Document Number: 198668
Alpha File Name:
INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 17, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ARLEN SPECTER

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT NOT TO SELL OR EVEN DELIVER ADDITIONAL ARMS TO SAUDI ARABIA UNLESS SUCH ARMS ARE OF ASSISTANCE IN OUR CURRENT ACTION AGAINST IRAQ IN THE GULF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICE/AGENCY</th>
<th>ACT CODE</th>
<th>DATE YY/MM/DD</th>
<th>TYPE RESP</th>
<th>D YY/MM/DD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSC/SIPR</td>
<td>ORG</td>
<td>90/12/17</td>
<td>FMY</td>
<td>90/12/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99DOD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMENTS: 

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIAL INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1220

MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)
FOR: Mr. William F. Sittmann  
   Executive Secretary  
   National Security Council  
   The White House

Reference:

To: President Bush  

From: Senator Arlen Specter  

Date: December 14, 1990  

Subject: Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia

WH Referral Dated: January 3, 1991
NSCS ID# (if any): 9010045

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.

X 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: The White House has already replied to the Senator's Letter.

Director  
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED
December 18, 1990

Dear Arlen:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President regarding additional arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

We appreciate being apprised of your view that the U.S. should not sell or deliver arms to Saudi Arabia unless the equipment would be of assistance in Operation Desert Shield. Your specific concerns have been noted, and I have taken the liberty sharing your comments with the President's military and national security advisors so that they, too, are aware of your views.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Arlen Specter
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM:SLM:

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 Dept. of Defense - FYI
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I strongly urge you not to sell or even deliver additional arms to Saudi Arabia unless such arms are of assistance in our current action against Iraq in the Persian Gulf. If such arms to Saudi Arabia would help relieve the burden of U.S. fighting men and women, I strongly support them.

When it comes to arms sales in the future, I believe that it is counter to U.S. national interests and stability in the Mideast to sell arms to Saudi Arabia. As you may know, I have consistently opposed such arms sales because I believe our overall policy should be to do our utmost to demilitarize the region and to take the lead in refusing to sell such arms even at the risk of having the British or French make such arms sales.

I oppose any arms sales unrelated to our immediate action against Iraq, because of my concern that such arms will fall into hostile hands and we are not sure where Saudi interests may lie in the future. As I understand it, Iraq took possession of Hawk missiles which we had sold to Kuwait. Several years ago, Senator DeConcini and I led the fight, which we lost, against the sale of Maverick missiles to Kuwait. Fortunately, these sophisticated air-to-ground missiles had not been delivered to Kuwait prior to Iraq's invasion or they would be in Iraq's hands today.

I am also very concerned that Saudi Arabia will not support U.S. interests in the future. In October, the Saudis backed in the United Nations the PLO initiative for a resolution criticizing Israel which was directly contrary to the U.S. position. There are frequent comments from ranking Saudi officials about again joining other Arab countries in a war against Israel. Because of these reasons, I hope your Administration will abandon any proposal to sell an additional multi-billion dollar arms package (perhaps as high as $13 billion) to Saudi Arabia. While there was ultimately no floor fight against the $7 billion arms sale last fall, I strongly urge you not to deliver any of those weapons to Saudi Arabia unless directly related to our current action against Iraq.

Sincerely,

Arlen Specter

AS/kr
TO: SITTMANN

FROM: ROY, J

KEYWORDS: SAUDI ARABIA
IRAQ
CO
PERSIAN GULF
ARMS SALES

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: STATE RECOM RE LTR TO PRES FM SEN SPECER RE ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA

ACTION: NO REPLY REQUIRED PER STATE
DUE DATE: 31 DEC 90
STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: STATE
LOGREF:
FILES: WH
NSCP:
CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION
FOR CONCURRENCE
FOR INFO
CHAMBERLIN
CHARLES
DYKE
HAASS
LAMPLEY
ROSTOW
WILSON

COMMENTS:


DISPATCHED BY __________________________ DATE ___________ BY HAND W/ATTCH
OPENED BY: NSJWD CLOSED BY: NSMJT DOC 2 OF 2

UNCLASSIFIED
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOC</th>
<th>ACTION OFFICER</th>
<th>CAQ</th>
<th>ASSIGNED</th>
<th>ACTION REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001</td>
<td>HAASS</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>90122711</td>
<td>PREPARE MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001</td>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>91010315</td>
<td>DRAFT REPLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>91011418</td>
<td>NO REPLY REQUIRED PER STATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE

STATE SECRETARY

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: SPECTER, ARLEN

DATE: 14 DEC 90

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES RE ADDITIONAL ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA

REQUIRED ACTION: DRAFT REPLY

DUE DATE:

COMMENT:

FOR GEORGE VAN ERON
DIRECTOR NSC SECRETARIAT