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ID # 285835

0086

### WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8/1/21 20

Name of Correspondent:  Mr.  Mrs.  Miss Paul R. Lindholm

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Writes on behalf of Benjamin Weir, who was kidnapped in Beirut.

#### ROUTE TO:

#### ACTION

#### DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
CoKell JOS	ORIGINATOR	85 10 1 18	C	85 10 3 18 AB
	Referral Note: R	85 10 1 23	A	85 10 3 12 AB
	Referral Note:	1 1		1 1
	Referral Note:	1 1		1 1
	Referral Note:	1 1		1 1
	Referral Note:			

#### ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

#### DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

#### FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.  
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOb).  
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.  
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

# RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

## CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: L Individual Codes: 4000 \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Subject Code: 02086 Secondary Subject Codes: TL 00303 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

**SIGNATURE CODES:**

**CPn - Presidential Correspondence**

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

**CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

**CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**

- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

**MEDIA CODES:**

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

S/S # 8502034

DATE MAR 15 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

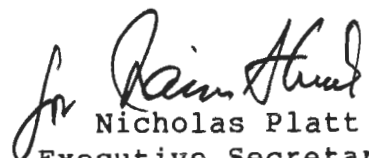
TO: President Reagan      FROM: Paul R. Lindholm  
DATE: December 16, 1984      SUBJECT: Writes on behalf of  
Benjamin Weir who was kidnapped in Beirut  
WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: January 23      NSC # 285855

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
- XX An information copy of a direct reply is attached
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
      cited below
- Other

REMARKS:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 12, 1985

Mr. Paul R. Lindholm  
Westminster Gardens  
1420 Santo Comingo Avenue  
Duarte, California 91010

Dear Mr. Lindholm:

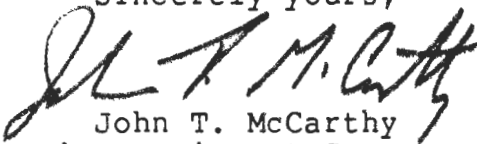
I am replying to your letter to President Reagan concerning the status of the Reverend Benjamin Weir, who was kidnapped in Beirut in May 1984. I regret the long delay in this response.

We are very concerned about the continuing terrorist attacks on Americans in Beirut, of which Mr. Weir's kidnapping is another tragic example. Although an organization calling itself "Islamic Jihad" has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, virtually nothing is known about the group.

The Department of State and our Embassy in Beirut are following every possible avenue to effect Mr. Weir's safe release. We continue to be in contact with a variety of parties in the region and are pursuing all possible avenues of inquiry. We have carefully questioned escaped hostage Jeremy Levin for clues that might be helpful and are following up on all leads. We also remain in close consultation with the Weir family.

Let me assure you we will continue our efforts on Mr. Weir's behalf. As President Reagan said, we have not forgotten those who are being held.

Sincerely yours,

  
John T. McCarthy  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Public Affairs

8502034

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

REFERRAL

JANUARY 23, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 285855

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1984

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. PAUL R. LINDHOLM  
WESTMINSTER GARDENS  
1420 SANTO COMINGO AVENUE  
DUARTE CA 91010

SUBJECT: WRITES ON BEHALF OF BENJAMIN WEIR, WHO WAS  
KIDNAPPED IN BEIRUT

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

11  
KOS

Paul R. Lindholm  
Westminster Gardens  
1420 Santo Domingo Avenue  
Duarte, CA 91010

8502034

December 16, 1984

285855

President Ronald Reagan  
Washington, D.C.

*A. Kelley*

Dear President Reagan,

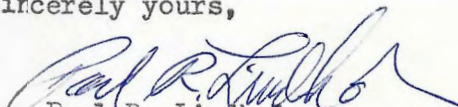
We write on behalf of the Rev. Benjamin Weir who was kidnapped in Beirut on May 8th of this year. It has been our privilege of knowing Ben, and his wife, Carol in Lebanon and in this country. In fact I have spent a day hiking with Ben in the mountains above Tripoli.

We beg of you to use your influence on authorities in Beirut for discovery of Ben's whereabouts, and his release.

Thanking you for your help in this matter,

I am

Sincerely yours,

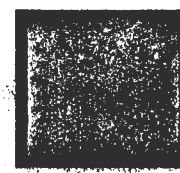
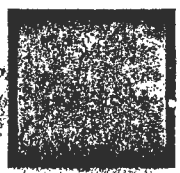
  
Paul R. Lindholm

Paul R. Lindholm  
Westminster Gardens  
1420 Santo Domingo Avenue  
Duarte, CA 91010



President Ronald Reagan

Washington, D.C.







THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 290884

02086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCF 08, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JAMES G. ABOUREZK

SUBJECT: OPPOSES THE CONTINUED ISRAELI OPPRESSION IN \_\_\_\_\_  
THE SOUTH OF LEBANON \_\_\_\_\_

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

M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/03/08	<i>MO</i>	A 85/03/21
<i>99D15</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:			
	REFERRAL NOTE:	<i>Mr. Will Ball</i>		
	REFERRAL NOTE:			
	REFERRAL NOTE:			
	REFERRAL NOTE:			

COMMENTS: FORMER SENATOR

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA: I INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1211 \_\_\_\_\_  
MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (P) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *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    *
*P-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.



*MA*

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

*NSC 290884*  
*CO086*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8509255

Date 4/1/85

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

*NSC 290884*  
*DO5 A 85/04/01 AB*  
*Ra Cagle A 85/04/02*  
*FYI C 850402 AB*

Reference:

To: The President From: James Abourezk *AB*

Date: 3/5/85 Subject: Israeli policies in  
South Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: 3/26/85 NSC ID# 290884  
(if any)

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.
- XX 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.

Remarks:

*Nicholas Platt*  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

April 1, 1985

Dear Mr. Abourezk:

I am responding to your letter of March 5 to the President concerning the situation in south Lebanon.

Let me assure you that the Administration shares your concern over the recent escalation of violence in south Lebanon. We have pursued every available diplomatic channel in an effort to avert this tragic situation, and we continue to urge all parties to exercise restraint and to end the violent cycle of attack and counter-attack.

We believe that agreed-upon security arrangements offer the best opportunity for an orderly Israeli withdrawal. Regrettably, Lebanon and Israel were unable to reach agreement on such arrangements at the UN-sponsored talks at Naqura, and Israel subsequently decided to withdraw unilaterally. We support the speedy and complete withdrawal of Israeli forces to the international border. To achieve this, we believe that practical military coordination between Lebanon and Israel would be more useful than inflammatory rhetoric about national resistance, which can only incite more violence.

Our goals in Lebanon remain constant: complete withdrawal of all foreign forces; a sovereign, independent, united Lebanon; and a stable and secure Lebanese-Israeli border. The best hope for peace and security for the people of south Lebanon is a rapid and coordinated Israeli withdrawal resulting in the restoration of central Lebanese government sovereignty and control over the region. We will continue to do everything possible to assist in progress toward these goals.

I hope that this is helpful in addressing your concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Murphy  
Bureau of Near Eastern  
and South Asian Affairs

Mr. James G. Abourezk,  
National Chairman,  
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee,  
1731 Connecticut Ave., N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.

March 21, 1985

Dear Senator Abourezk:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of March 5, reiterating your concern regarding Israel's continued presence in Lebanon.

Please know that your further comments have been directed to the attention of the President's foreign policy advisers. I am sure they will be carefully considered.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable James G. Abourezk  
National Chairman  
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee  
1731 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

MBO:KRJ:MDB

cc: w/copy of inc to Will Ball, Legis Affairs,  
Dept of State - for appropriate action

290884

S  
MO



AMERICAN-ARAB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE

March 5, 1985

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing once again to protest, in the strongest terms possible, the continued Israeli oppression in the South of Lebanon. Since the U.S. government provides the military, political and economic support for Israel, only you can put a stop to this war that has been declared by Israel on the population of Southern Lebanon.

If this "heavy boot" policy were carried out any other place, there would be the loudest protests. But somehow, the people of Lebanon do not receive the same kind of human rights concern that is piously given to other groups who have suffered much less.

I respectfully request that you shut off the U.S. money flow to Israel until it has totally and unconditionally withdrawn from Lebanese soil, and their illegal occupation has ended.

Yours Truly,

James G. Abourezk  
National Chairman

10/20

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

MS

ID# 291883

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

0086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SAMUIL MANSKI

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING ACTION OF THE MEDIA IN  
SOUTH LEBANON

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

MARSHALL BREGER

ORG 85/03/25

*MANC 850326* **AB**

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

*No answer*

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
*                       *                       * CORRESPONDENCE:        *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED                *TYPE RESP=INITIALS     *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL      *           OF SIGNFR    *
*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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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
17 COMMONWEALTH AVE  
BOSTON MA 02116 22AM

Western  
Union Mailgram



31

1-015779S081 03/22/85 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP WWSB  
6174371647 MGMS TDMT BOSTON MA 54 03-22 1205P EST

291883

PRESIDENT REAGAN  
WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

*Marshall Burger*

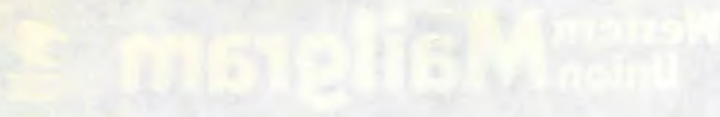
ON BEHALF OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA NEW ENGLAND REGION  
PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SINCEREST THANKS FOR PLACING THE ACTION OF THE  
MEDIA IN SOUTH LEBANON IN THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE, GOD BLESS AND KEEP  
YOU

SAMUIL MANSKI CHAIRMAN PUBLIC AFFAIRS ZOA  
17 COMMONWEALTH AVE  
BOSTON MA 02116

12:07 EST

MGMCOMP

5241 (R 7/82)



WESTERN UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY  
315 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10004

WESTERN UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY  
315 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10004

WASHINGTON DC 20004  
WHITE HOUSE  
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

*Handwritten signature*

ON BEHALF OF THE STORMIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA NEW ENGLAND REGION  
PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SINCEREST THANKS FOR FILING THE ACTION OF THE  
COURT TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM/MESSAGE PHONE WESTERN UNION ANYTIME, DAY OR NIGHT

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES  
OF YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR

DIAL (TOLL-FREE) 800-257-2241

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX I ..... 6181 FROM TELEX II (TWX) ..... 910-420-1212

151

ID# 291885

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. NATHAN PERMUTTER

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING NEWS CONFERENCE ON MAR 21 85  
CONCERNING DEATH OF CBS EMPLOYEES IN LEBANON

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

MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/03/25	NAN	85/03/26 AB
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: NO ANSWER

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *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  
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

*Marshall Buger*

291885

1-008616A081 03/22/85

ICS IPMWGWD WSH

01331 03-22 1131A EST

PMS WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

4-012207S081 03/22/85

ICS IPMNTZZ CSP

2124902525 TDMT NEW YORK NY 43 03-22 1122A EST

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGON, DELIVER AT ONCE, DLR

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

YOUR RESPONSE TO LAST NIGHTS QUESTION CONCERNING THE TRAGIC DEATH OF TWO CBS EMPLOYEES IN LEBANON WAS A SUCCINCT, INSIGHTFUL AFFIRMATION OF COMMON SENSE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF HUMANA COMPASSION. IT IS A MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION TO COOLING HEADS WHILE MAINTAINING WARMTH OF FEELINGS.

NATHAN PERLMUTTER, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF  
B'NAI B'RITH

1126 EST

1139 EST

85 MAR 22 P12:49

2

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296270

AB

3200  
C0086

ND016

FG006-01

JV

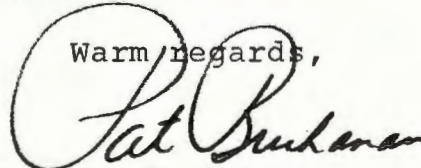
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 15, 1985

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

You were most kind to pen those gracious words; and, seeing what is happening to your country, I know what you must be going through. I have fond memories of our spirited exchanges on "Crossfire."

Warm regards,



Pat Buchanan

Assistant to the President

His Excellency  
Abdallah Bouhabib  
Ambassador of Lebanon  
2560 28th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20008



*Embassy of Lebanon  
Washington*

*The Ambassador*

No: 16/1  
February 8, 1985

Mr. Patrick Buchanan  
Director of Communications  
The White House

Dear Patrick:

I learned with great pleasure the news of your appointment as Director of Communications at the White House. This nomination will undoubtedly be a tremendous and valuable contribution to the American Administration.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you, Dear Patrick, and to wish you a very successful assignment.

*Warmest regards*

Abdallah Bouhabib

AB/gl

2



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 300645

*C0086*  
8510103

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 29, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. JOSEPH M. DICAPRIO

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE SITUATION  
IN LEBANON

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LINAS KOJELIS	ORG	85/03/29		
<i>199705</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	<i>R</i>	<i>85/04/03</i>	<i>C 85/04/01</i>	<i>AB</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: _____			<i>A 85/04/18</i>	<i>AB</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION CODES:  | *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.

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8510103

Date April 19, 1985

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Dr. Joseph M. Di Caprio

Date: March 20, 1985 Subject: Expresses Concern Regarding  
the Situation in Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: April 3, 1985 NSC ID# 300645  
(if any)

         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.

xx 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.

Remarks:

*James W. Bear*  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

**UNCLASSIFIED**

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

April 18, 1985

Joseph M. Di Caprio, M.D.  
Chairman, Political Committee  
United Muslims of America  
1564 Market Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Dr. Di Caprio:

I am responding on behalf of President Reagan to your letter of March 20 regarding the safety of the kidnapped Americans in Lebanon and the actions of the Israeli Defense Forces in southern Lebanon.

We sincerely appreciate your concern regarding the well-being of the American citizens being held hostage in Lebanon, and your willingness to make an appeal to their captors. We encourage you to do so. We believe that such an appeal could be successfully addressed through any responsible Muslim cleric in Lebanon or through the Iranian Government.

The continuing cycle of violence in southern Lebanon is disturbing to all Americans. We have been assured by the Government of Israel that it intends to withdraw fully from Lebanon in an orderly manner, and believe that they would do so more rapidly in the absence of continued violence against their forces. We have seen the allegations of acts on both sides that we abhor. We are convinced that acts of desecration, if true, are contrary to the policies and instructions of the Israeli Government, and are due solely to individuals acting irresponsibly in an atmosphere of fear.

The Administration is deeply committed to peace in Lebanon and the sovereignty of Lebanon; we have worked hard to secure the withdrawal of occupation forces from Lebanon, and were prepared to accept a consensus statement in the United Nations Security Council that would have respected the rights of all parties. However, we believed that the resolution that was presented on March 12 by the Lebanese Government was unbalanced and would not contribute to an end to the agony of south Lebanon, and therefore voted against it.

- 2 -

I hope this information is of assistance to you, and am  
greatful for your concern for the fate of the captive Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Mack". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

David L. Mack  
Director  
Office for Jordan,  
Lebanon, and Syria

8510103

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

REFERRAL

APRIL 3, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 300645  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 20, 1985  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: DR. JOSEPH M. DICAPRIO  
CHAIRMAN  
POLITICAL COMMITTEE  
UNITED MUSLIMS OF AMERICA  
1564 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE SITUATION  
IN LEBANON

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

L. Kojala



UNITED MUSLIMS OF AMERICA  
1564 Market Street  
San Francisco, CA. 94102 (415) 626-0868

8510103

March 20, 1985

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express the concerns of the American Muslim community that we represent concerning the situation in Lebanon. For the present, I shall focus on two main areas of concern:

1. The safety and well-being of American citizens, including those who have been kidnapped.
2. The "iron fist" operations of the Israeli military forces. Raids have been conducted on villages with the loss of innocent lives and destruction of homes. In addition, it was reported in The "New York Times" (March 3, 1985, page 10, columns 3,4) that "In some villages, according to local residents, the Israeli troops have ripped up the Koran, the Moslem holy book in the mosques." One resident from the village of Mansouri related that "They went to the mosque, and first they cut the pages out of the Koran and then they put their boots on it".

As regards the kidnapped Americans, our Executive Committee would consider an appeal to the captors if you can provide the means of communication..

As regards the actions of the Israeli military forces in southern Lebanon, we feel, and we hope you do as well, a degree of responsibility in view of the assistance we provide Israel. On March 12, 1985, Ambassador Kirkpatrick vetoed the United Nations Security Council resolution condemning Israeli practices in southern Lebanon. Does this veto indicate that our government condones and approves of the actions taken by Israeli military forces? If this interpretation is not correct, what is the position of your administration in this regard? With regard to the alleged acts of desecration of the Koran, are you willing to request the Israeli government to investigate the matter?

Very respectfully yours,  
*Joseph M. Di Caprio*  
Joseph M. Di Caprio, M.D.  
Chairman, Political Committee

b

0210102

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505



Page 2 of 2

The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the assistance and support you have provided in the past. It is a privilege to work with you and your staff, and I am confident that our continued cooperation will result in many more successful outcomes.

I am sure that your leadership and vision will continue to guide us through these challenging times, and I look forward to the opportunity to work with you again in the future.

The information provided in this report is confidential and is intended solely for the use of the recipient. It is not to be disseminated to other personnel, nor is it to be used for any purpose other than that for which it was provided. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact the appropriate authority.

In addition, I would like to thank you for your continued support and assistance in the past. Your leadership and vision have been instrumental in the success of our operations, and I am confident that your continued support will result in many more successful outcomes.

I am sure that your leadership and vision will continue to guide us through these challenging times, and I look forward to the opportunity to work with you again in the future. I am confident that our continued cooperation will result in many more successful outcomes.

Very truly yours,  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 02, 1985

8511023

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LARRY STIRLING

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE WHATEVER  
MEASURES ARE NECESSARY TO SECURE THE RELEASE  
OF THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE PESP	AC COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ROBERT CLEASON	ORG	85/04/02	RG	85/04/04
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		A 85/4/11		85/05/17
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200 \_\_\_\_\_  
IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- ```

*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       * CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED              *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *R-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL    *           OF SICNEP *
*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)

S/S # 8511023

DATE June 7, 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: The Honorable  
Larry Stirling  
DATE: March 28, 1985 SUBJECT: The Release of Benjamin  
Weir

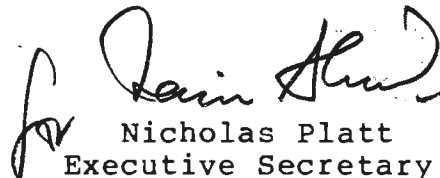
WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: April 11, 1985 NSC # 300874

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
- Other

REMARKS:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED  
(CLASSIFICATION)

85 MAY 7 P11:07

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM



S/S  
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 17, 1985

The Honorable Larry Stirling  
Assemblyman of the State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblyman Stirling:

I am replying further to your letter to President Reagan concerning the status of the Reverend Benjamin Weir, who was kidnapped in Beirut in May 1984. I regret the delay in this response.

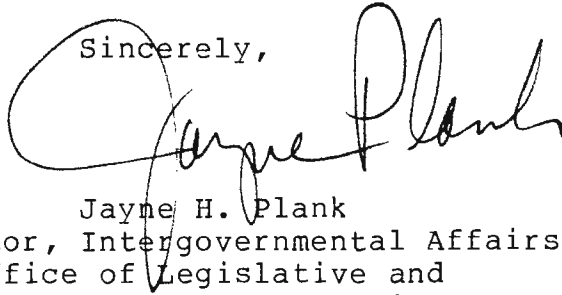
The U.S. Government is very concerned about the terrorist attacks on Americans in Beirut, of which Mr. Weir's kidnapping is a tragic example. As you may know, an organization calling itself "Islamic Jihad" has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, but very little is known about the group.

The Department of State and our Embassies overseas are following every possible lead to effect Mr. Weir's safe release. We continue to be in contact with a variety of parties in the region and are pursuing all possible avenues of inquiry. We also remain in close consultation with the Weir family.

We understand your concern for Mr. Weir's safe return, and share your impatience, but believe we should not comment specifically on our ongoing, intensive efforts. Throughout Mr. Weir's captivity, it has been our policy not to discuss the details of our efforts to secure his release or that of the other kidnapped Americans. Such publicity would not be helpful. We believe it only offers continued incentive for the captors to retain their hostages, and ultimately could prove harmful to the efforts to secure their release.

Let me assure you we will continue our efforts on Mr. Weir's behalf. As President Reagan said, we have not forgotten those who are being held.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jayne H. Plank". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jayne H. Plank  
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs  
Office of Legislative and  
Intergovernmental Affairs

8511023

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

REFERRAL

APRIL 11, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 300874

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 28, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE LARRY STIRLING  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
CALIFORNIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SACRAMENTO CA 95814

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE WHATEVER  
MEASURES ARE NECESSARY TO SECURE THE RELEASE  
OF THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

April 4, 1985

Dear Assemblyman Stirling:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent letter and accompanying article pertaining to Reverend Benjamin Weir.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding your correspondence to the U.S. Department of State for their benefit and consideration.

I appreciate your bringing your concerns to the attention of the Administration. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Gleason, Jr.  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Larry Stirling  
Assemblyman of the State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

#300877

5  STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
PHONE: (916) 445-6161

*R. Stirling*

AID PLAZA BUILDING  
7777 ALVARADO ROAD - SUITE 315  
LA MESA, CA 92041  
PHONE: (619) 237-7777

# Assembly California Legislature



**LARRY STIRLING**  
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

8511023

March 28, 1985

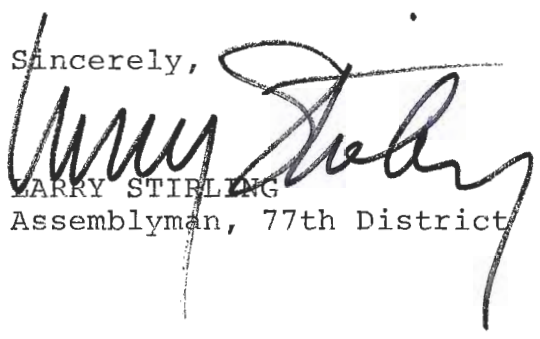
The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I feel that the personal safety and well-being of United States citizens should be among the paramount concerns of our government. In this light, I strongly urge you to take whatever measures are necessary to secure the release of the Reverend Benjamin Weir.

Whether it is one individual or 52 citizens, I'm sure you'll agree it is our solemn duty to insure the safety of Americans in foreign lands under your guidance. America has reestablished itself as the leader of the free world, please let us show that leadership in this instance.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this most important matter.

Sincerely,  
  
LARRY STIRLING  
Assemblyman, 77th District

LS:dkk  
Enclosure: Press clipping

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## Kidnaped U.S. Cleric's Letters Ask Church Aid

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A Presbyterian minister kidnaped by terrorists in Beirut last year has written two letters asking church superiors to prod the U.S. government into taking decisive action to win his release, relatives said Monday.

The letters, written in longhand and addressed to two church leaders, were "definitely" from the Rev. Benjamin Weir, who was abducted May 8 by three men while walking to work in West Beirut, said his son, John Weir.

"It's definitely his writing but not his composition," John Weir said. "The style and types of statements were certainly not what he would include in a letter. Obviously, someone else told him what to write."

A radical group known as Islamic Jihad (Islamic Holy War) is believed to be behind the kidnaping of Weir and four other Americans last year, including Jeremy Levin, Beirut bureau chief for Cable News Network. Levin, reporting that he

escaped his captors, surfaced last month after 11 months.

The group also is believed responsible for the recent abductions of Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, and two Britons.

Meanwhile, the 3.1 million-member Presbyterian church has been asked to begin a postcard campaign as part of the effort to win Weir's release, church spokesman Allen Kratz said.

The request was made by Dr. Oscar McCloud, head of the church's Program Agency, which does missionary work for the church throughout the United States and overseas. One of Weir's letters was addressed to McCloud.

"Dr. McCloud has asked Presbyterians to send a million postcards to President Reagan asking the President to do what he needs to do to get Benjamin Weir released," said Kratz, who was in San Diego on Monday for a two-day meeting of the church's Presbyterian Gen-

eral Assembly Council.

Church officials also are considering appeals to key elected officials who may be able to use their influence to win Weir's release, Kratz said.

John Weir said the general theme of the letters—which were identical in content but addressed to different people—was that "the U.S. government take strong effective action to get these men out."

The elder Weir has done missionary work in the Middle East for the past 30 years.

In Amsterdam, meanwhile, the Dutch news agency ANP said a Dutch Roman Catholic priest has apparently been kidnaped in Lebanon.

The Dutch agency quoted Dutch church sources as saying the priest—identified as N. Kluiters, 43, a Jesuit who has worked in Lebanon for the last 10 years—disappeared last Thursday when traveling near his parish in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon.





UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

S/S # 8514480

DATE June 5, 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: The President FROM: The Reverend Alan Gripe  
DATE: April 21, 1985 SUBJECT: Benjamin Weir

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: May 10 NSC # 301993

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
- XXX An information copy of a direct reply is attached
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below
- Other

REMARKS:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 24, 1985

The Reverend Alan G. Gripe  
Associate Secretary  
The United Presbyterian Church in  
The United States of America  
420 Witherspoon Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Dear Mr. Gripe:

I am replying to your letter to President Reagan concerning the status of the Reverend Benjamin Weir, who was kidnapped in Beirut in May 1984. I regret the delay in this response.

The U.S. Government is very concerned about the terrorist attacks on Americans in Beirut, of which Mr. Weir's kidnapping is a tragic example. As you may know, an organization calling itself "Islamic Jihad" has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, but very little is known about the group.

The Department of State and our Embassies overseas are following every possible lead to effect Mr. Weir's safe release. We continue to be in contact with a variety of parties in the region and are pursuing all possible avenues of inquiry. We also remain in close consultation with the Weir family.

We understand your concern for Mr. Weir's safe return, and share your impatience, but believe we should not comment specifically on our ongoing, intensive efforts. Throughout Mr. Weir's captivity, it has been our policy not to discuss the details of our efforts to secure his release or that of the other kidnapped Americans. Such publicity would not be helpful. We believe it only offers continued incentive for the captors to retain their hostages, and ultimately could prove harmful to the efforts to secure their release.

Let me assure you we will continue our efforts on Mr. Weir's behalf. As President Reagan said, we have not forgotten those who are being held.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Smalley  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Public Affairs

8514480

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

REFERRAL

MAY 10, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
ATTN: ELLIOT ABRAMS

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 301993  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 21, 1985  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: THE REVEREND ALAN G. GRIPE  
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY  
THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
420 WITHERSPOON BUILDING  
PHILADELPHIA PA 19107

SUBJECT: URGES RELEASE OF THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR  
FROM CAPTIVITY IN BEIRUT, LEBANON

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

301993

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE REVEREND ARVO E. VAURIO,  
Secretary

THE REVEREND ALAN G. GRIPE,  
Associate Secretary



INTERBOARD OFFICE OF PERSONNEL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE AND FIELD SERVICE COMMISSION

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

420 WITHERSPOON BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107

Telephone: PEnnypacker 5-6722—Area Code 215

8514480

Sunday Evening  
April 21, 1985

*Arvo Halladay*

Dear President Reagan,

Please do all you can to obtain the release of captive Rev. Benjamin M. Weir some where in Lebanon. Do you know he has now been captive in or near Beirut for 349 days? Please help him.

Please ask one of your staff to let me know what you are doing about this serious violation of the rights of an American Citizen. Please write to my home address, below.

Thank you.

Alan G. Gripe

~~201~~ 205 West Clinton Ave

Tenafly, New Jersey 07670



Idg

8513485

ID# 301998

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS LYDIA S. SMITH

SUBJECT: WRITES REARDING KIDNAPPING OF HER NIECE'S  
HUSBAND, THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR IN  
BEIRUT, LEBANON

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                   | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD  | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| ANNE HIGGINS                            | ORG         | 85/04/26          |              | C 85/05/14                |
| <i>✓</i> DOS REFERRAL NOTE:             |             | <i>0501</i>       |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | <i>R 85/04/29</i> |              | <i>A 85/05/13</i>         |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /               |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /               |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /               |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /               |              | / /                       |

AB  
AB

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODFS: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:    *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                               * COPRESPONDENCE:  *
*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.

~~(Classification)~~

UNCLASSIFIED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8513485

Date May 13, 1985

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Ms. Lydia S. Smith  
Writes Regarding Kidnapping of  
Date: March 21, 1985 Subject: her niece's husband, the Reverend  
Benjamin Weir in Beirut, Lebanon

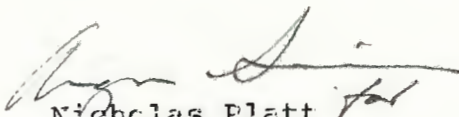
WH Referral Dated: 5/1/85 NSC ID# 301998  
(if any)

         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.

Remarks:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)





United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 13, 1985

Ms. Lydia S. Smith  
P.O. Box 4  
Bolinás, California 20500

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for your letter of March 21 to President Reagan regarding the continuing captivity of your niece's husband, Reverend Benjamin Weir. I have been asked to respond on the President's behalf.

The President is extremely concerned about the terrorist attacks on Americans in Lebanon and the fate of Reverend Weir and the other four Americans who were abducted in Beirut. This is a problem in which he takes a deep personal interest. The protection of American citizens overseas is a priority concern of our government and it is entirely appropriate, as you suggest, that we work for the release of these innocent Americans. This would be true, however, regardless of the motive of the kidnapers.

I can assure you that the lack of success so far does not reflect a lack of effort. The State Department as well as other agencies and our Embassies overseas are following every lead to ensure the safe release of Reverend Weir and the other Americans. Intensive diplomatic contacts are continuing and we are pursuing all possible avenues of inquiry. Not much has been said publicly about our efforts on behalf of the captive Americans because we believe that their release can best be accomplished through quiet, discreet diplomacy.

It is certainly true that the Arab-Israeli conflict was one of a number of factors underlying the civil strife that has plagued Lebanon over the last ten years and that the continuing violence in Lebanon has contributed to the rise of terrorism. Fortunately, the release of the American captives does not depend on the the achievement of the longer-term and still elusive goals of peace and harmony in Lebanon.

The United States has played an intensive diplomatic role in Lebanon during the past three years aimed at helping the Lebanese people to restore their country's unity, sovereignty and stability. We believe that this can only come about through a people united behind a common central government and committed to resolving differences by political means. In this

regard, we have continually urged all parties to support the central Lebanese government and encouraged them to engage in a political dialogue. The United States will continue to do what it can to assist Lebanese reconciliation efforts. The central responsibility, however, rests with Lebanon's leaders and its various militias.

The President clearly appreciates what an ordeal this must be for you and the other families. As you may know, Secretary Shultz met with Mrs. Weir on March 22 to reassure her that the release of Reverend Weir and the other Americans was a top priority for the Administration. Let me assure you that we will continue our intensive efforts on behalf of the missing Americans. They have not been forgotten.

Although I did not become personally acquainted with Ben Weir during the time I served in Beirut, I have met in my office with his children, John and Susan. I was also in the congregation of the National Presbyterian Church when Mrs. Weir spoke so movingly about her husband. They are all fine human beings, and I am sure that their faith provides them with strength to help meet this ordeal.

Sincerely,

*David L. Mack*

David L. Mack  
Director  
Office of Lebanon, Syria  
and Jordan

8513485

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

REFERRAL

MAY 1, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 301998

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 21, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MISS LYDIA S. SMITH  
POST OFFICE BOX 4  
BOLINAS CA 94924

SUBJECT: WRITES REARDING KIDNAPPING OF HER NIECE'S  
HUSBAND, THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR IN  
BEIRUT, LEBANON

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

37  
Personal

301998

March 21, 1985

8513485

AH

P.O. Box 4  
Bolinas, CA 94924

President, Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It has been thirty years since my niece, Carol Weir and her husband, Benjamin Weir, boarded a plane for Beirut, Lebanon. Both are Presbyterian ministers. They grew fond of the picturesque and lovely city. Their work was inspiring and rewarding. Life was a happy experience. They loved the people so they made this their real home and raised their four children there.

Exactly 318 days ago Ben was snatched from a Beirut street. Carol was pushed aside. When Ben resisted he was hit over the head with a pistol and shoved into the kidnappers' car. There has been no official word of him since.

Because Ben is a fine gentleman whose whole life has been one of everything that is good, his abduction was not personal. Rather it was a political move just as the other Americans were captured for political reasons. Because of this situation isn't it proper for our government to get these innocent men released?

People who have lived in Lebanon for some time feel that the root of the present confusion, hanging over Lebanon, was caused mainly by the Arab-Israeli conflict, though other factors have developed. These people state, "The Arabs must be included in negotiations."

Many who have lived in this foreign region believe that those who were taken as hostages will never be released until peace settles over Lebanon.

Mr. President, I know your position requires constant demand on your time. In my opinion your results as the leader of our country, are getting us gradually out of the tremendous national debt, eliminating government waste, clearing up dishonest business practices, handling toxic wastes, working to conquer the terrible contagious drug problems, cracking down on illegal aliens, pursuing difficult foreign relationships and the

President, Ronald Reagan  
March 21, 1985  
Page 2

successful handling of many undesirable developments which have expanded over the years. The load you carry is tremendous. It is greater than any other president has ever had.

I'm writing because I hope you can spare the time to instigate a meeting which will encompass all the factions concerned with the Lebanon crisis, including the Arabs and including the expertise of our United States representatives.

If peace and harmony can be brought to Lebanon it should follow that those being held will be released from captivity. Our family is waiting patiently for Ben Weir to be freed.

I know our government is pursuing means to bring home those who are now being held. In a recent speech at the San Francisco Commonwealth Club Secretary of State, George Shultz, stated, "The efforts of the government are increasing and untiring." I'm hoping those effort will very soon evolve into some type of negotiations as mentioned above. I feel desperately that we must get Ben Weir released immediately.

Best wishes for continued success,

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lydia S. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lydia S. Smith



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301993

*20086*  
**29 APR 1985**

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

**8514480**

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND ALAN G. GRIPE

SUBJECT: URGES RELEASE OF THE REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR  
FROM CAPTIVITY IN BEIRUT, LEBANON

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)                 | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| DOUG HOLLADAY                                           | ORG         | 85/04/26         |              | C 85/05/08                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:<br><i>Elliot Abrams - Dept. of State</i> | A           | 85/05/08         |              | A 85/05/24                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

COMMENTS:

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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       * CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED              *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMNT/RECOM        *B-NON-SPEC-REFERPAL    *           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-INTERJM 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.

*NASH*

ID# 302439

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

0086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 12, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JAMES R. HURLEY

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANCE TO TRY TO  
OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF BEN WEIR AND OTHER  
CAPTIVES BEING HELD HOSTAGE IN LEBANON

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION   |                 | DISPOSITION |                        |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------|
|                                         | ACT CODE | DATE YY/MM/DD   | TYPE RESP   | C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD |
| ROBERT GLEASON                          | ORG      | 85/04/12        | CC          | A 85/05/20             |
| <i>gd DOS</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____      | <i>R</i> | <i>85/06/14</i> |             | A 85/08/07             |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |          | / /             |             | / /                    |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |          | / /             |             | / /                    |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |          | / /             |             | / /                    |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |          | / /             |             | / /                    |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200 \_\_\_\_\_

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
*                       *                                     *CORRESPONDENCE:        *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED                *TYPE RESP=INITIALS    *
*C-COMMFNT/RECOM       *R-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.



S/S # 8517726

DATE August 7, 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

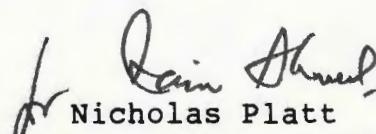
TO: President Reagan FROM: The Honorable James R. Hurley  
DATE: April 9, 1985 SUBJECT: requests the President's assistance to try to obtain the release of Ben Weir and other captives being held hostage in Lebanon  
WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: June 14, 1985 NSC # 302439

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  
 Other

REMARKS:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

85 AUG 7 P11:30

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 25, 1985

The Honorable  
James R. Hurley  
State Senator  
New Jersey Senate  
Box 809  
Millville, New Jersey 08332

Dear Senator Hurley:

I am replying further to your letter to President Reagan concerning the Reverend Benjamin Weir, who was kidnapped in Beirut in May 1984. I regret the delay in this response.

The Department of State, our Embassies, and other U.S. Government agencies overseas are following every lead to effect Mr. Weir's safe release. Regrettably, we know very little about the self-titled "Islamic Jihad," which has claimed responsibility for kidnapping Mr. Weir and other Americans. This group has demanded the release of terrorists convicted and imprisoned in Kuwait for the 1983 bombings of the American and French Embassies (for which the organization also claimed responsibility), in which 6 persons died and over 80 others were injured.

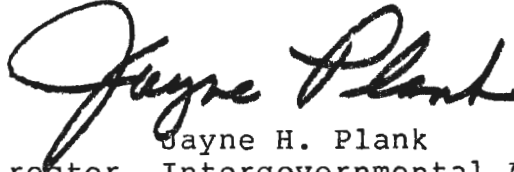
The Administration is deeply concerned about the Americans still missing in Lebanon, and had hoped to secure their freedom when the hostages from TWA flight 847 were released. Unfortunately, this proved impossible. The Administration is continuing its intensive diplomatic contacts, as we pursue all plausible avenues of inquiry. We also remain in close consultation with the Weir family.

We understand your concern for Mr. Weir's safe return, and share your impatience, but cannot comment more specifically on our ongoing, intensive efforts. Throughout Mr. Weir's captivity, it has been our policy not to discuss the details of our efforts to secure his release and that of the other kidnapped Americans. Such publicity would not be helpful. We believe it only offers continued incentive for the captors to retain their hostages, and ultimately could prove harmful to the efforts to secure their release.

Mr. Weir's kidnapping and the hijacking of TWA flight 847 are tragic examples of the continuing terrorist attacks on Americans. Because of our concern for Americans' safety, the Department has issued several travel advisories recommending against any travel to Lebanon and urging Americans in Lebanon to take advantage of opportunities to leave. We have vigorously condemned such terrorist acts, and called on the world community to take steps to end such lawless behavior.

The U.S. Government intends to continue its intensive efforts on Mr. Weir's behalf. President Reagan is deeply concerned for the safety of all the kidnapped Americans, and is kept fully briefed. As he has said, we have not forgotten those who are being held.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jayne Plank". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jayne H. Plank  
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs  
Office of Legislative and  
Intergovernmental Affairs

8517726

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

REFERRAL

JUNE 14, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 302439  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 9, 1985  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: THE HONORABLE JAMES R. HURLEY  
STATE SENATOR  
NEW JERSEY SENATE  
BOX 809  
MILLVILLE NJ 08332

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANCE TO TRY TO  
OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF BEN WEIR AND OTHER  
CAPTIVES BEING HELD HOSTAGE IN LEBANON

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

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8517726

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1985

Dear Senator Hurley:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent letter in which you request that every effort be made to win release of Reverend Benjamin Weir and other American hostages who are being held in Lebanon.

I can assure this grave matter is receiving close attention, and have forwarded your correspondence to the appropriate officials at the U.S. Department of State for their benefit and direct reply.

Thank you for sharing your concerns with the Administration.

Sincerely,



Ceci Cole McInturff  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable James R. Hurley  
Senator of the State of New Jersey  
State Capitol  
Trenton, New Jersey 08332

5  
R. Hurley

# 302439

NEW JERSEY SENATE



**JAMES RICHARDSON HURLEY**

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

SENATOR 1ST DISTRICT

(CAPE MAY COUNTY, PART OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY)

Box 809

MILLVILLE, N.J. 08332

609-327-0030

8517726

April 9, 1985

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I want to join many other people in urging you to use the power of your office to try to obtain the release of Ben Weir and other captives being held hostage in Lebanon.

On the date I'm writing this letter, Ben Weir will have been held hostage 336 days.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would address this matter of extreme urgency.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James R. Hurley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James R. Hurley  
Senator

JRH:chr

7

