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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C00867

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 04, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOHN F. KERRY

SUBJECT: WRITES ON BEHALF OF A NUMBER OF HIS
LEBANESE-AMERICAN CONSTITUENTS WHO EXPRESS
CONCERN THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEBANESE
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT *

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ALAN KRANOWITZ		ORG	88/10/04	AKA 88/10/06	TR
<i>99 DOS</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:				
<i>LAKRAN</i>	REFERRAL NOTE: <i>after Ed Foy</i>	R	88/10/11	A 88/10/11	CI
	REFERRAL NOTE: <i>FYA</i>	A	88/10/11	C 88/10/12	CJ
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: * IT IS NOW U.S. POLICY TO BACK THE SYRIAN
CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210
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.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8829654

Date October 19, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Senator John F. Kerry

Date: September 28, 1988

Subject: The perception that it is now U.S. Policy to back
the Syrian candidate for the Lebanese Presidency

WH Referral Dated: October 11, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 599396

 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 (see remarks).

REMARKS:

UNCLASSIFIED

Alinda L. Kennicott
for Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
88 OCT 19 P 2: 34



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

OCT 18 1988

Dear Senator Kerry:

I am replying further to your message to the President of September 28 concerning U.S. policy toward Lebanon.

The United States supports the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We encourage and support efforts to end the violence and disorder there and reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that could open the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the presidential election, we believe this is a critical time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition. We urge all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The recent evolution of rivaling claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace, freedom, and safety. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process.

Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders as possible. We do not intend to take measures that will deepen partition rather than promote an election.

We are concerned about the plight of all innocent civilians, Christian and Muslim, who have suffered so much during the last 13 years of fighting. Reports of sectarian massacres and property destruction unfortunately have been widespread in Lebanon; no confessional community appears to have escaped unscathed.

As a reflection of our support for Lebanon's sovereignty, the United States maintains a military and economic assistance program. Also, the United States provides substantial humanitarian aid totalling over \$20 million annually to help feed and shelter the people of Lebanon. Our relief and reconstruction projects and programs also continue.

The Honorable
John F. Kerry,
United States Senate.

Finally, the United States continues to support efforts to end the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon, in part through its support for UNIFIL, the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. We remain convinced that agreed-upon security arrangements among Syria, Lebanon, and Israel provide the best means of assuring stability and security for the people of southern Lebanon and northern Israel.

Sincerely,

EF/7

J. Edward Fox
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

8829654

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

REFERRAL

OCTOBER 11, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ATTN: ED FOX

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 599396
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 4, 1988
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: THE HONORABLE JOHN F. KERRY
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON DC 20510

SUBJECT: WRITES ON BEHALF OF A NUMBER OF HIS
LEBANESE-AMERICAN CONSTITUENTS WHO EXPRESS
CONCERN THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEBANESE
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT
IT IS NOW U. S. POLICY TO BACK THE SYRIAN
CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

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

8829654

October 6, 1988

Dear Senator Kerry:

On behalf of the President, I would like to acknowledge your letter of September 28 regarding U.S. policy toward Lebanon.

Please be assured that your statement of concern has been transmitted to appropriate members of the President's advisory staff for review. You will be receiving a further response to your inquiry in the near future.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Alan M. Kranowitz
Assistant to the President

The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

AMK:KRJ:

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, cong affrs, State - for DIRECT
response

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - FYI ✓

599396

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-8225

GERYLD B. CHRISTIANSON, STAFF DIRECTOR
JAMES P. LUCIER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

September 28, 1988

PK

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

Dear Mr. President:

A number of my Lebanese-American constituents have contacted me to express their despair over recent reports that our government has altered significantly our historical policy towards Lebanon.

The stated policy of our government, dating back to the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, has been the maintenance of an independent and sovereign Lebanon, free from external interference. This position supposedly was reinforced in an August 25, 1988 letter from the Department of State to Mr. Adel Honein, the National Chairman of the American Lebanese League. In that letter, Mr. Edward Walker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, stated that:

"The choice of a new president is for the Lebanese themselves to make. The new president must represent all the Lebanese people so that he can build on the efforts that already have been made to promote national reconciliation and to reform the Lebanese constitution."

Now, we find out that Syrian President Hafez Assad has been given veto power over who is to be the next President of Lebanon. It has been reported extensively that Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, Richard Murphy, on a recent trip to the region, informed representatives of the Lebanese Christian community that it was now United States policy to back the Syrian candidate for President.

How can we expect any Lebanese nationalist to accept a President imposed on them by Damascus? I fear one result of Secretary Murphy's trip and announcement is to move Lebanon closer to partition than at anytime in the past. This episode represents a serious setback for the policy of the United States in our historical attempts to insure the territorial integrity and sovereignty of a united Lebanon.

In addition, Syria has been designated by your administration as one of six nations in the world which support international terrorism. Why are we then catering to Assad? Is this the way we reward terrorism?

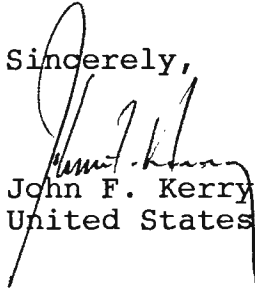
Finally, Syria has been, and remains, one of the foremost obstacles to a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East. How does strengthening Syria's hand in Lebanon further our overall peace efforts in the region?

In light of these dire consequences for our policy in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East, I believe it is vitally important for our government to reverse this change in policy towards Lebanon. Rather than avoiding a partition of Lebanon through our acceptance of Syria's presidential candidate, we are already witnessing the beginnings of a de facto partition of that country. Certainly, we cannot expect Israel to stand by and accept Syrian hegemony over Lebanon.

In light of the stakes for U.S. policy in the region and for the people of Lebanon themselves, I believe it is essential that our government make it very clear that we will not allow Syria to dictate the outcome of the next presidential election and that our historical policy towards Lebanon is now back on track.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration of my views on this matter.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator

JFK/dmm

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0086
?

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 04, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOHN F. KERRY

SUBJECT: WRITES ON BEHALF OF A NUMBER OF HIS
LEBANESE-AMERICAN CONSTITUENTS WHO EXPRESS
CONCERN THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEBANESE
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT *

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ALAN KRANOWITZ	ORG	88/10/04	AKA	88/10/06 TR
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>99 DOS</i>				
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>at Ed Foy</i>	R	88/10/11		
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: * IT IS NOW U.S. POLICY TO BACK THE SYRIAN
CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210
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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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

October 6, 1988

Dear Senator Kerry:

On behalf of the President, I would like to acknowledge your letter of September 28 regarding U.S. policy toward Lebanon.

Please be assured that your statement of concern has been transmitted to appropriate members of the President's advisory staff for review. You will be receiving a further response to your inquiry in the near future.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Alan M. Kranowitz
Assistant to the President

The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

AMK:KRJ:

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, cong affrs, State - for DIRECT
response
cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - FYI ✓

C. AIRORNE PELL, RHODE ISLAND, CHAIRMAN

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FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, ALASKA
PAUL S. TRIBLE, Jr., VIRGINIA
DANIEL J. EVANS, WASHINGTON
MITCH MCCONNELL, KENTUCKY

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

GERYLD B. CHRISTIANSON, STAFF DIRECTOR
JAMES P. LUCIER, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

5 99396

September 28, 1988

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

Dear Mr. President:

A number of my Lebanese-American constituents have contacted me to express their despair over recent reports that our government has altered significantly our historical policy towards Lebanon.

The stated policy of our government, dating back to the administration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, has been the maintenance of an independent and sovereign Lebanon, free from external interference. This position supposedly was reinforced in an August 25, 1988 letter from the Department of State to Mr. Adel Honein, the National Chairman of the American Lebanese League. In that letter, Mr. Edward Walker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, stated that:

"The choice of a new president is for the Lebanese themselves to make. The new president must represent all the Lebanese people so that he can build on the efforts that already have been made to promote national reconciliation and to reform the Lebanese constitution."

Now, we find out that Syrian President Hafez Assad has been given veto power over who is to be the next President of Lebanon. It has been reported extensively that Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, Richard Murphy, on a recent trip to the region, informed representatives of the Lebanese Christian community that it was now United States policy to back the Syrian candidate for President.

How can we expect any Lebanese nationalist to accept a President imposed on them by Damascus? I fear one result of Secretary Murphy's trip and announcement is to move Lebanon closer to partition than at anytime in the past. This episode represents a serious setback for the policy of the United States in our historical attempts to insure the territorial integrity and sovereignty of a united Lebanon.

In addition, Syria has been designated by your administration as one of six nations in the world which support international terrorism. Why are we then catering to Assad? Is this the way we reward terrorism?

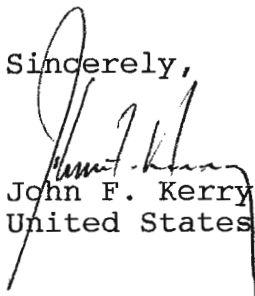
Finally, Syria has been, and remains, one of the foremost obstacles to a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East. How does strengthening Syria's hand in Lebanon further our overall peace efforts in the region?

In light of these dire consequences for our policy in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East, I believe it is vitally important for our government to reverse this change in policy towards Lebanon. Rather than avoiding a partition of Lebanon through our acceptance of Syria's presidential candidate, we are already witnessing the beginnings of a de facto partition of that country. Certainly, we cannot expect Israel to stand by and accept Syrian hegemony over Lebanon.

In light of the stakes for U.S. policy in the region and for the people of Lebanon themselves, I believe it is essential that our government make it very clear that we will not allow Syria to dictate the outcome of the next presidential election and that our historical policy towards Lebanon is now back on track.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration of my views on this matter.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator

JFK/dmm

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 12, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BARBARA VUCANOVICH

SUBJECT: CONCERN REGARDING STATE DEPARTMENT'S RECENT
POLICY TOWARD LEBANON

8830170

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ALAN KRANOWITZ		ORG	88/10/12	OK	A 88/10/13
99 DOS Ed Fox		R	88/10/17		A 88/10/31 TH
AL Kran		A	88/11/03	FIVE TH	C 88/11/04

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 7 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 _____

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.

UNCLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8830170

Date November 1, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Representative Barbara Vucanovich

Date: October 6, 1988

Subject: Concern regarding State Department's recent policy
toward Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: October 17, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 599605

_____ 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 (see remarks).

REMARKS:

UNCLASSIFIED

Jay Salpini
Director
Secretariat Staff

Film

UNCLASSIFIED

88 NOV 2 A 7: 13

88 NOV 1 10: 50

67-1000-1-R-10

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

OCT 31

Dear Mr. Vucanovich:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Republican Study Committee on U.S. policy toward Lebanon. I appreciate this opportunity to clarify our policy goals and objectives in Lebanon.

Our first objective in that troubled country is to support the restoration of its national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We encourage and support, therefore, all efforts to end the violence and disorder there and to reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that could open the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the presidential election, we believe this is a critical time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition. We urge all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The recent evolution of rival claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace and safety. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process.

Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders as possible. We do not intend to take any measure that will deepen partition; rather, we will continue working to help restore stability to that troubled nation.

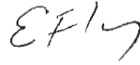
We are concerned about the plight of all innocent civilians, Christian and Muslim, who have suffered so much during the last 13 years of fighting. Reports of sectarian massacres and property destruction unfortunately have been widespread in Lebanon; no confessional community appears to have escaped unscathed.

As a reflection of our support for Lebanon's sovereignty, the United States maintains a military and economic assistance program. Also, the United States provides substantial humanitarian aid totalling over \$20 million annually to help feed and shelter the people of Lebanon. Our relief and reconstruction projects and programs also continue.

The Honorable
Barbara Vucanovich,
House of Representatives.

Finally, the United States continues to support efforts to end the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon, in part through its support for UNIFIL, the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. We remain convinced that agreed-upon security arrangements among Syria, Lebanon, and Israel provide the best means of assuring stability and security for the people of southern Lebanon and northern Israel.

Sincerely,



J. Edward Fox
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

8830170

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

REFERRAL

OCTOBER 17, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ATTN: ED FOX

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 599605
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 6, 1988
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: THE HONORABLE BARBARA VUCANOVICH
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON DC 20515
SUBJECT: CONCERN REGARDING STATE DEPARTMENT'S RECENT
POLICY TOWARD 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, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

October 13, 1988

Dear Barbara:

Thank you for your letter of October 6 to the President, cosigned by seven of your colleagues, concerning U.S. policy toward Lebanon.

We appreciate being advised of your concerns. In an effort to be of assistance, we have forwarded your letter to appropriate officials for prompt review. You will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Alan M. Kranowitz
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

AMK:KRJ:

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, Congressional Affairs, State --
for DIRECT

THE REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

433 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

202/225-0587

CHAIRMAN

Barbara Vucanovich (NV)

October 6, 1988

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Larry Craig (ID)

Bob Dornan (CA)

John Hiler (IN)

Buz Lukens (OH)

Al McCandless (CA)

Robert S. Walker (PA)

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President

The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It has become clear that the State Department's recent policy toward Lebanon is not in the long-term interest of the United States. Just two weeks ago, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived in Beirut to pressure the Lebanese Parliament to accept as their President a Syrian supported candidate. The Government of Lebanon, the Maronite Patriarch, and the Lebanese Christian community soundly rejected the overtures by Assistant Secretary Murphy and the State Department.

It is incomprehensible that representatives of the United States Government should attempt to impose on the Lebanese people a candidate supported by Syria, a state which sponsors terrorism, rejects the existence of the State of Israel, and continues to occupy large portions of Lebanon itself. Support for such a candidate would jeopardize the security of Israel and would expand Syria's access to the Mediterranean. Turning over the control of the Lebanese presidency to a Syrian supported candidate is clearly not in the interest of the United States.

Mr. President, it is difficult to understand how your Administration, which has aggressively supported people struggling for democracy around the world, would side with the terrorist regime of Syria. Our policy must be to reinforce the efforts of the existing interim military government to bring about reconciliation and free elections. The Department of State must work with the new interim Prime Minister to reach these goals if stability is ever to return to that troubled nation.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Vucanovich

Phil Crane

Phil

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Ben Blaz (GUAM)

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Beau Boulter (TX)

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STAFF COUNSEL

Daphne Miller Marselas

Bob Dornan

Dan Burton

~~Jack Kemp~~
David Drier

John H. ...

Byz ...

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 086

M
INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 31, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE SONNY CALLAHAN

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES LETTER FROM MR. ED KAHALLEY, SR.,
AMERICAN LEBANESE LEAGUE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
REGARDING HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE STATE
DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON THE LEBANESE *

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ALAN KRANOWITZ		ORG	88/10/31	OK	A 88/11/01 TR
99 DOS: Ed Fox		R	88/11/04 TR		A 88/12/07 TR
LAKRAN		A	88/12/12 TR FYI		C 88/12/13 TR

COMMENTS: * PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240
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.

UNCLASSIFIED  
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8833373

Date December 7, 1988

For: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Sonny Callahan  
Date: October 28, 1988 Subject: Concern about the  
State Department's policy on Lebanese Elections  
Referral Dated: November 4, 1988 ID# 603704  
(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 (see remarks).

Remarks:

*for Nadia Paulis*  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED  
(Classification)



United States Department of State

dim  
s/s

Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC 7

Dear Mr. Callahan:

Thank you for sending us a copy of the letter on Lebanon from your constituent, Mr. Edward Kahalley, Sr., Vice President of Communications for the American Lebanese League. The President has asked me to reply.

The United States continues strongly to support the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon. As you know, we encourage and support efforts to end the violence and disorder there and to reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that opens the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the presidential election, this is a time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition in Lebanon; and we are urging all parties to exercise maximum restraint and flexibility. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process. The recent evolution of rivaling claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace and safety.

Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders as possible in order to promote an election and help prevent deeper partition.

Sincerely,

EF/s

J. Edward Fox  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:  
Correspondence returned.

The Honorable  
Sonny Callahan,  
House of Representatives.

THE WHITE HOUSE

883373  
NOV 04 9:28 AM

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 4, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
ATTN: ED FOX

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 603704  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1988  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: THE HONORABLE SONNY CALLAHAN  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON DC 20515  
SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES LETTER FROM MR. ED KAHALLEY, SR.,  
AMERICAN LEBANESE LEAGUE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA  
REGARDING HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON THE LEBANESE  
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

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

November 1, 1988

Dear Sonny:

Thank you for your October 28 letter to the President enclosing correspondence you received from Mr. Ed Kahalley regarding the elections in Lebanon.

We appreciate your interest in apprising us of your constituent's views in this regard, and will share them with appropriate Administration officials. You will receive a further response in the near future.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Alan M. Kranowitz  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Sonny Callahan  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

AMK:KRJ:

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, cong affrs, State - for DIRECT  
response

603704

SONNY CALLAHAN  
1ST DISTRICT, ALABAMA

1232 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4931

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
2970 COTTAGE HILL ROAD  
SUITE 126  
MOBILE, AL 36606  
(205) 690-2811

AK

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515  
October 28, 1988

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

ENERGY AND POWER

TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM,  
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

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

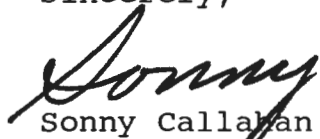
Dear Mr. President:

The attached communication expressing Lebanese Americans' serious concerns about the State Department's policy on the Lebanese presidential election is submitted for your consideration.

I respectfully request that Mr. Kahalley's concerns and suggestions be given full attention. If you will advise me of your action in this matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



Sonny Callahan  
Member of Congress

SC:net



# American Lebanese League

NATIONAL OFFICE 801 Frank Nelson Building • Birmingham, AL 35203 • (205) 328-7911

JOSEPH L. BOOHAKER  
PRESIDENT

ADEL HONEIN  
CHAIRMAN

ALLEN P. HARIKA  
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION

ROBERT A. BASIL  
VICE PRESIDENT OF POLICY

October 19, 1988

EDWARD KAHALLEY, SR.  
VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

DR. JOSEPH JABRE  
NATIONAL SECRETARY

TOUFIC P. NASSIF  
NATIONAL TREASURER

U. S. Representative Sonny Callahan  
1232 Longworth H. O. B.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Callahan:

On September 21, 1988 the undersigned had the opportunity to talk personally with Ambassador Richard Murphy relative to State Department activity in conjunction with the election in Lebanon. I was extremely alarmed with the positions expressed by Ambassador Murphy and requested an immediate meeting between himself and representatives of the American Lebanese League.

On October 5, 1988 representatives from the American Lebanese League, including the undersigned, had a one and one half hour meeting with Ambassador Richard Murphy at the United Nations Plaza Hotel in New York. Unfortunately, this meeting only confirmed that our government (thru Ambassador Murphy) has been more interested in meeting Syria's demands, than it has been in protecting the life of a dying democracy.

We contend that our government has done more harm than good. To support this charge we enclose a copy of a speech made to the United States Senate on September 23, 1988 by Senator Jesse Helms. Please take a few minutes to read this speech.

⊗ We hereby call on you to express to President Reagan similar sentiments and request that our government and State Department reevaluate its position on this critical matter, recognize the duly constitutional Aoun Cabinet, declare that Syrian troops are in Lebanon illegally and work for a **free Lebanese election** in a safe area without any Syrian influence. This is the least our government can do as the leader and defender of Democracy in the world.

⊗ SONNY:  
THANKS FOR ALL  
YOUR SUPPORT. AS  
YOU CAN SEE MORE  
YOU WE NEED MORE  
HELP. Ed.

Sincerely Yours,  
*Ed. Kahalley, Sr.*  
Ed Kahalley, Sr.  
P. O. Box 7276  
Mobile, AL 36607

## SENATOR HELMS DENOUNCES SYRIA FOR INTERFERING IN LEBANESE AFFAIRS

Friday September 23, 1988

In the first meaningful response to Syria's involvement in Lebanon, U.S. Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) denounced Syria's interference in Lebanese affairs in a speech before the U.S. Senate.

Senator Helms criticized the State Department over its miserable failure in handling the Lebanese situation saying: "Mr. Murphy, instead of playing the role of honest mediator, all but handed Lebanon over to Syrian dictator Hafez Assad".

Senator Helms went on to talk about Syria's new candidate, Mikhael al-Daher, and the condemnation of the Christians of Lebanon to Murphy's mission, and demanded that the United States recognize Prime Minister Michel Aoun's new cabinet as the only legitimate authority on Lebanese soil.

Following is the full text of Senator Helms speech:

### The State Department policy in Lebanon:

"Mr. President, today we stand on the verge of the collapse of Lebanon into a bloody civil war. Lebanon has been perilously weakened by the United States—or, more specifically, by the Near Eastern Affairs Bureau of the Department of State under Assistant Secretary Richard W. Murphy. The fixation of this Bureau on enhancing the power of President Hafez Assad of Syria has been contributing to the tragedy of Lebanon for more than a decade.

The election of a new Lebanese president is a matter for the Lebanese Parliament alone to decide. We should not be negotiating with Syria about the internal affairs of Lebanon. Syria should be told forcefully by the United States to stay out of Lebanese politics and to stay out of Lebanon.

Mr. President, since August Syria has been thwarting the attempts of the people of Lebanon to conduct a proper election for their president. The election was supposed to have been conducted yesterday but the Syrians demanded that the Parliament meet for the elections in Syrian-controlled West Beirut. No quorum was possible because it is not safe for Christian and Moslem deputies from East Beirut to cross over into West Beirut to vote.

The United States must recognize the legitimately constituted new government of Prime Minister General Michel Aoun which was created yesterday at 4:50 p.m. Washington time, 11:50 p.m. Beirut time. The government of General Aoun was created by the Decree of President Amine Gemayel just 10 minutes before the expiration of his term of office. Under the Lebanese constitution such a transitional cabinet may be appointed by the President; it will then govern until proper presidential elections can take place. The Prime Minister of the transitional cabinet during this period has full presidential powers. A similar transitional situation occurred in 1952.

The Syrians are seeking to impose an alternate government headed by their puppet Salim al-Hoss, who has been the acting Prime Minister under President Gemayel, which would seek international recognition for itself in place of the constitutional government. Al-Hoss' cabinet resigned over a year ago on June 1, 1987.

Mr. President, the United States and all countries of good will must recognize the Aoun government in order to prevent chaos, bloodshed, and a possible partition in Lebanon.

The reason that proper elections in safe conditions did not occur yesterday is because the Syrians insisted that the elections be held in Syrian-controlled West Beirut rather than at a neutral site, the Villa Mansour, along the Green Line which separates East and West Beirut.

Deputies did meet in West Beirut but a quorum was not present. Sadly, a Shiite Moslem deputy from East Beirut, former Speaker of Parliament Kamel al-Assaad, who had gone to vote in good faith was kidnapped, assaulted, and later released by pro-Syrian Amal militia forces as he tried to return to East Beirut.

Damascus has no right to interfere in the sovereign affairs of Lebanon. Damascus has no right to occupy Lebanon with over 40,000 troops. The United States has no business promoting Syrian control of Lebanon.

Mr. President, Senators know that it has been the stated policy of the United States since 1943 to support the sovereign independence of Lebanon. Sovereign independence means no foreign interference in internal affairs.

Secretary Murphy's diplomatic failure in Damascus has unfolded over the last week. His policy has been appeasement in the face of Syrian demands. He has all but handed Lebanon over to Syrian dictator Hafez Assad. The consequences of this unprecedented betrayal may well lead to bloodshed within the coming hours and days.

The State Department mission to Damascus, rather than playing a role as an honest mediator, capitulated step-by-step to the Syrian plan to install a puppet president in Lebanon.

First, the State Department accepted rather than rejected the puppet candidates proposed by Syria. Rather than veto Syrian intervention in the electoral process, Mr. Murphy publicly indicated U.S. support of the Syrian puppet candidate Mikhael al-Daher knowing full well in advance that al-Daher was wholly unacceptable to Christian and moderate Moslem Lebanese.

Second, the State Department accepted rather than rejected the Syrian-selected West Beirut venue for the election knowing fully well in advance that this location was unacceptable to Christian and moderate Moslem deputies.

The Syrians, who militarily occupy about 60% of Lebanese territory, have tried for months to impose their own puppet as president. The Syrians proposed two candidates: Sleiman Franjeh as their first choice and al-Daher was the alternate. Both of these men are notoriously pro-Syrian control, a fact which makes their families and friends hostages to Syria. Both of these men are known to Syria and to the United States to be wholly unacceptable to the Christian and moderate Moslem communities in Lebanon.

The Syrian demand that the election take place at a location in West Beirut rather than along the Green Line at the Villa Mansour has been an attempt to put Christian and Moslem deputies living in East Beirut under Syrian intimidation in an almost hostage-like situation should they cross over to vote. As I pointed out, a kidnapping did occur. Such a venue could have no other purpose than to force deputies to boycott the election for their own safety. The Syrians then could promote an alternative government.

### The al-Daher Candidacy:

Mr. President, as I stated earlier, the Syrians first proposed Sleiman Franjeh as their candidate for president knowing full well that he was wholly unacceptable to the Christian and moderate Moslems communities. The back-up was Mr. al-Daher, also well known to be unacceptable to these communities, as an alternate candidate.

Daher, born in the village of Kobayatt, North Lebanon in 1928, is a lawyer who once defended Fouad Awad of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party—a Syrian party with a Lebanese branch—who was charged with plotting a coup d'etat in Lebanon. The ideology of this political party holds that Lebanon and the rest of the Mesopotamian Basin—including Israel and Iraq—should be part of a so-called "Greater Syria." The Lebanese branch of this party has covert terrorist cells.

Al-Daher fully endorsed the "Tripartite Agreement" of December 28, 1985 which was the Syrian program for control of Lebanon. This plan gives Syria total control over Lebanon's defense, internal security, foreign policy, economic policy, and education policy. The plan never went into effect but has remained part of Syria's gameplan.

Reports from Lebanon indicate that on September 12 of this year, Daher, in preparation for the declaration of his candidacy, left his East Beirut residence and visited his village of Kobayatt in Syrian controlled North Lebanon. He brought two well-known Syrian sympathizers with him: ex-Ministers Michel Murr and Marwan Hamade.

It has been reported to me that al-Daher went to Damascus on September 16 to work out the details of his candidacy and platform. It has not yet been confirmed whether or not he met with the U.S. State Department delegation then in Damascus. His platform is described as consisting of most of the elements of the Tripartite Agreement and in effect the platform hands Lebanon over to Syria. Syrian Vice President Khaddam—with whom the Murphy delegation had been negotiating—declared official Syrian approval of the al-Daher platform on September 19.

Under al-Daher's platform, the Syrian military would essentially take control over the Lebanese Army and internal security forces.

### Christians Condemn the Murphy Actions:

Mr. President, Christian parliamentary deputies and church authorities have been meeting in emergency session in Bkerke over the last several days. The Christian deputies have taken a position that the unity of the national assembly must be preserved and that the elections must be held in secure conditions at the Villa Mansour along the Green Line.

Before Secretary Murphy left Lebanon, he was informed frankly and forcefully by the Maronite Patriarch Sfeir in person that the State Department's position in support of a Syrian diktat was rejected by the Christians community. According to informed sources, the Patriarch told Murphy that not even Lebanon's former Ottoman rulers had attempted to impose their will on the country in such a fashion as Syria's Assad.

{Please see HELMS p. 6



HELMS From p. 5

Despite the clearly announced united position of the Christian community, the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon has continued to insist upon the acceptance of al-Daher or the holding of elections in Syrian-controlled West Beirut. Our Ambassador to Lebanon, John Kelley, was stricken with heart problems last week and was evacuated to Cyprus and then to West Germany for tests last Friday. Ambassador-designate McCarthy has not yet left the United States to replace Ambassador Kelley. The U.S. spokesman in Lebanon, therefore, has been Daniel Simpson who has reportedly privately and publicly supported al-Daher and the West Beirut election location.

Mr. President, it is my understanding that the Vatican has been fully informed of the situation and is deeply distressed by events in Lebanon.

The French Foreign Minister has already condemned the U.S. diplomatic fiasco.

**The Aoun Government:**

President Amine Gemayel named the following to a military government in the closing minutes of his term. General Michel Aoun, a Maronite Catholic and the military chief of staff, was named the Prime Minister and given the portfolios for defense. Brigadier Issam Abu Jamra, a Greek Orthodox, was named Deputy Prime Minister and given the portfolios for transportation, housing, commerce, economics, and post office. General Edgar Maalouf, a Greek Catholic, was given the portfolios of finance, health, social affairs, oil, and industry. Col. Louffi Jaber, a Shiite Moslem and commander of the predominantly Shiite Sixth Brigade, was given the portfolios of water, electricity, agriculture, and justice. General Mahmoud Tay Abu Dargham, a Druze, was given the portfolios for public works, tourism, and labor. General Nabil Koraytim, a Sunni Moslem, was given the portfolios for foreign affairs, interior, and education.

Owing to intense Syrian pressure, Col. Jaber, General Dargham, and General Koraytim declined to serve in the new government. An indication of the intensity of Syrian pressure was the non-acceptance of the portfolios by Col. Jaber who himself had supported General Aoun for president.

The Aoun government has the united support of the Christian community in Lebanon as well as the support of moderate Moslem leaders such as Osman Danna, a Sunni Moslem deputy from Beirut. Dr. Samir Geagea, the Chairman of the Christian Resistance and Commander-in-Chief of the Lebanese Forces announced his immediate support for the Aoun government. Dany Chamoun, leader of the National Liberal Party, and George Saade, leader of the Kataeb Party, announced their support of the Aoun government. Pierre Helou, an independent Deputy and influential leader within the Christian community announced his support of the Aoun government.

Mr. President, the State Department's pro-Syrian policy has remained virtually unchanged since it was created by Henry Kissinger in the early 1970s. The inevitable consequences of this pro-Syrian

policy to date has been bloody civil warfare in Lebanon, Syrian military occupation of some 60 per cent of Lebanese territory, and the spread of international terrorism.

Mr. President, it is no secret that Syria and Iran worked together to blow up the Marine Corps barracks in Lebanon which took the lives of over 250 soldiers. Of course, the State Department made every effort to cover up Syrian support of international terrorism even though Syria has been on the list of countries sponsoring terrorism. The Department of State has promoted the fiction that Syria has been helpful with respect to hostages when the fact is that Syria on its own, and working with Iran, has been behind the taking of hostages in the Middle East.

Mr. President, it is time that we drop the fatally flawed pro-Syrian policy of the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the State Department. We need to construct and to implement a realistic policy for the Near East which will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the region.

Mr. President, Syria is a terrorist-sponsoring state. Syria, under the dictatorship of Hafez Assad, is a threat to peace in the Middle East. Appeasement of Syrian state terrorism and intervention in Lebanon is a road to further chaos and bloodshed. The Syrian nation deserves better than Hafez Assad, a dictator who does not hesitate to massacre tens of thousands of his own people.

Mr. President, it is clear that the policy of the Bureau of Near East Affairs, headed by Assistant Secretary Murphy, is a catastrophe for U.S. goodwill, influence, and long-range interests in the Middle East - the ancient strategic crossroad of mankind.

The first step in a new realistic policy is to recognize immediately the government of Prime Minister Aoun in war-torn Lebanon."

ID # 609200

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0086

8825251

- O - OUTGOING
  - H - INTERNAL
  - I - INCOMING
- Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8810817

Name of Correspondent: Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Ed Kahalley (Kahalley)

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Writes concerning situation in Lebanon.

### ROUTE TO:

### ACTION

### DISPOSITION

| Office/Agency | (Staff Name)  | Action Code           | Tracking Date<br>YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code     | Completion Date<br>YY/MM/DD |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
|               | <u>Cokell</u> | <u>ORIGINATOR</u>     | <u>88108122</u>           |                  | <u>C</u> | <u>88109101</u>             |
|               | <u>Doz</u>    | <u>Referral Note:</u> | <u>88108124</u>           |                  | <u>A</u> | <u>88108125</u>             |
|               |               | <u>Referral Note:</u> | <u>1 1</u>                |                  |          | <u>1 1</u>                  |
|               |               | <u>Referral Note:</u> | <u>1 1</u>                |                  |          | <u>1 1</u>                  |
|               |               | <u>Referral Note:</u> | <u>1 1</u>                |                  |          | <u>1 1</u>                  |
|               |               | <u>Referral Note:</u> | <u>1 1</u>                |                  |          | <u>1 1</u>                  |

#### 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: 4400 \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Subject Code: CP 086 - \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Subject Codes: ND 016 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 25, 1988

Dear Mr. Kahalley:

Thank you for your letter of August 13, 1988 to President Reagan about the Lebanese presidential election. The President has asked me to reply.

The United States government shares your deep concern about the Lebanese election. The election is important to the process of restoring Lebanon's unity and stability. Accordingly, the election must proceed constitutionally and in a peaceful and orderly manner, so that a smooth, legitimate transition can occur.

The choice of a new president is for the Lebanese themselves to make. The new president must represent all the Lebanese people so that he can build on the efforts that already have been made to promote national reconciliation and to reform the Lebanese constitution.

We, too, want a free, democratic, and independent Lebanon and will continue our efforts to help the Lebanese achieve this goal.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Walker  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of Near Eastern and  
South Asian Affairs

Mr. Ed Kahalley, Sr.  
Chairman, American Lebanese League,  
Mobile Area Chapter,  
P. O. Box 7276  
Mobile, Alabama 36607.

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8825251

Date August 31, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Mr. Ed Kahalley, Sr., American Lebanese League

Date: August 13, 1988

Subject: Present Situation in Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: 609200  
NSC ID# (if any): August 24, 1988

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:

*Judy Salpini*  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

WHITE HOUSE  
UNCLASSIFIED

08 AUG 1 11:31

SITUATION ROOM

08 AUG 1

17:08

UNCLASSIFIED

8825251

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

REFERRAL

AUGUST 24, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 609200

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED AUGUST 13, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. ED KAHALLEY SR.  
CHAIRMAN  
MOBILE AREA CHAPTER AMERICAN  
LEBANESE LEAGUE  
POST OFFICE BOX 7276  
MOBILE AL 36607

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING 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, 20500

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8 SEE 10518990

DOS

Skalley

609200



**MOBILE AREA CHAPTER  
AMERICAN LEBANESE LEAGUE**

P. O. BOX 7276  
MOBILE, AL 36607

**OFFICERS**

DR. LOUIS J. NAMAN  
President

KAMAL CONSTANTINE  
Vice-President

SPERDON A. KAHALLEY  
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DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

ED KAHALLEY, SR.

August 13, 1988

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are alarmed and greatly concerned to learn that Sulieman Franjieh may, or already has announced as a candidate for President of Lebanon. This news should be evidence to everyone that Syria has no intention of keeping her agreement with the United States, namely that she will not interfere in Lebanon's election.

Franjieh is eighty years old, he has a record of association with drug traffickers and in the opinion of those who know the facts he will be a puppet of Syria.

Mr. President, it is imperative for the salvation of Lebanon's sovereignty that the United States demand that Syria back off and stay out of Lebanon's election. Your administration is working hard to control drug trafficking. The election of Franjieh will be a setback for all who desire to control this deadly menace.

We plead with you, please insist that our State Department and others take immediate steps to see that Syria keeps her agreement with the U.S.A. and that she not interfere in this vital election.

We thank you for all that our great Country of America is doing for Lebanon and we urge you to act immediately on this crucial development.

In behalf of our membership and all who love and appreciate their freedom, I am,

Sincerely Yours,  
*Ed Kahalley, Sr.*  
Ed Kahalley, Sr.  
Chairman

EK/e  
cc: Joseph L. Boohaker  
President  
AMERICAN LEBANESE LEAGUE





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 20, 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR KEN DUBERSTEIN

FROM: JOHN C. TUCK *JCT*

SUBJECT: Mark Cowan Telephone Call *Re:*

I returned Mark Cowan's telephone call to you this date. Cowan was calling you to alert you to a potential domestic political problem in light of the State Department's announcement that the United States supports a specific candidate to be the new President of Lebanon.

According to Cowan, Assistant Secretary of State Murphy cut a deal with the President of Syria to support an individual named Daher to succeed President Gemayel. This action is opposed strongly by Lebanese Christians in Lebanon and in the United States. It was the understanding of the Lebanese Christian Community that the United States would take no action in support of any individual for the Presidency. According to Cowan, there will be a strong U.S./Lebanese Christian backlash in this country directed at the President and George Bush as the result of this decision. The White House should anticipate newspaper ads and the regular onslaught of letters and telegrams in the next several days on this issue.



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128 DLY GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC SEP 21  
PMS HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL O'CONNOR //DLR DONT DWR//  
452 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10022  
7WH?

DEAR CARDINAL O'CONNOR:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE TODAY ON THE LEBANESE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO A PEACEFUL AND CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN LEBANON ON SEPTEMBER 22. WE REMAIN STRONGLY COMMITTED TO HELPING RESTORE LEBANON'S UNITY, SOVEREIGNTY, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TOWARD THOSE ENDS.

SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

ACCEPTED  
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