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Last Updated: 11/13/2023

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

COMMENTS:

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 03, 1987 NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MANUEL MARTINEZ SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTRA/IRAN ISSUE ACTION DISPOSITION ROUTE TO: ACT DATE TYPE C COMPLETED OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) CODE YY/MM/DD RESP D YY/MM/DD 87/02/04 NANC LINAS KOJELIS ORG REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE:

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*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A

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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 75,0EOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS

MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 11, 1987

Nanul Dear Mr. Martinez:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President expressing vour support for his efforts on the contra/Iran issue.

The President is most appreciative of support from groups, such as yours, and is most committed to the cause of democracy throughout the world.

We greatly appreciate the contribution that people of your heritage have given to America, and we thank you for taking the time to write as you did.

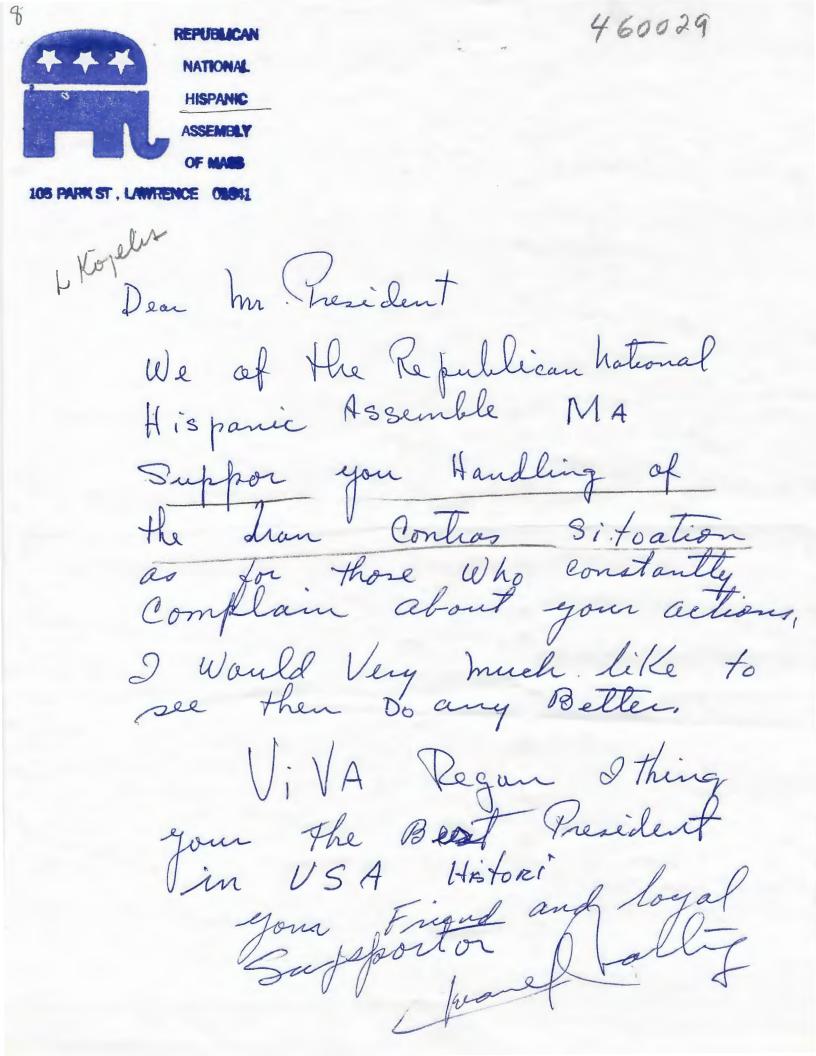
Sincerely,

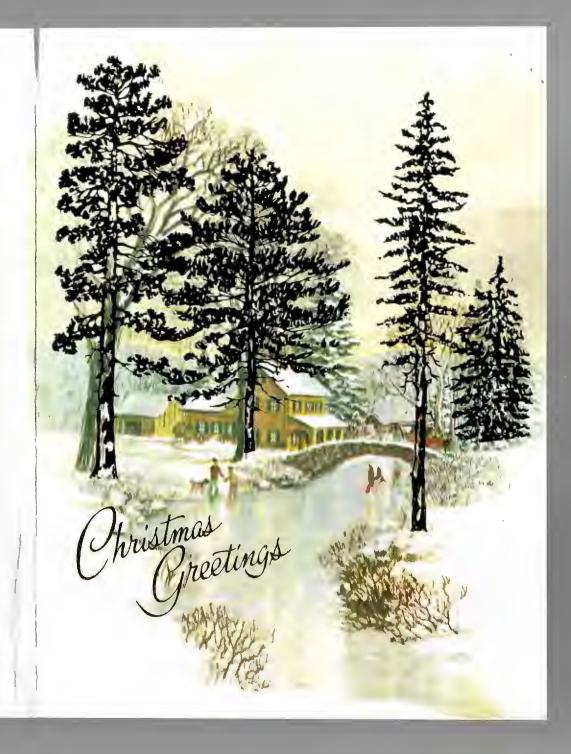
Rudy Beserra

Associate Director

Office of Public Liaison

Mr. Manuel Martinez
Republican National Hispanic
Assembly of Massachusetts
105 Park Street
Lawrence, MA





©Burgoyne, Inc.

PHILADELPHIA MADE IN US A

To Wish You

a Merry Christmas

and a

Wonderful New Year

Office of the Mayor, City of Lawrence, Massachusetts



Kevin J. Sullivan

MAYOR

November 6, 1986

Mr. George Bush Vice President of the United States Office of the Vice President Washington, DC 20006

Dear Vice President Bush:

As Mayor of the City of Lawrence, I am writing to share with you my idea for a special program to honor new American citizens. The City of Lawrence has been labeled the "Immigrant City" and "City of Workers" in many books and articles. I am proud of our history and pleased that we continue to be a place where many new immigrants come to live, work, and build a better life for themselves, their family and community.

I would like to explore whth you and your staff the possibility of planning a special citizenship swearing-in ceremony in Lawrence for an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 mostly Hispanic and Asian immmigrants residing in the Lawrence area.

Manuel Martinez and I have been discussing this project, and he encouraged me to write this letter to initiate an exchange of ideas with you which would hopefully develop into a more formal planning process.

I would welcome the opportunity to have you visit me in Lawrence to discuss this program and explore other initiatives which will promote our mutual commitment to improving the quality of life for all Americans.

Singerely,

Kevin J. Sullivan Mayor of Eawrence

KJS/st





PRESIDENTIAL HANDSHAKE: How many people shake hands with a president? Manuel Martinez is still all smiles over a photograph of him shaking hands with President Reagan in September during Hispanic Heritage Week.

Martinez, 484 Howard St., Lawrence, is chairman of the Massachusetts Republican National Hispanic Assembly. He was the first elected Hispanic delegate to the Republican national convention in 1984 and was the local coordinator for the Reagan campaign that year.

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 04, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ALBERT GORE JR.

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING A PETITION HE RECEIVED
CALLING FOR A FULL INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
ILLEGAL FUNDING OF THE NICARAGUAN CONTRAS,
RESUMPTION OF BILATERAL TALKS WITH NICARAGUA*

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT-2590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

Dear Senator Gore:

Thank you for your letter of January 24 regarding a petition signed by your constituents on the subject of funding for the Nicaraguan freedom fighters, for resumption of bilateral talks with Nicaragua, and for support of the Contadora peace process.

Senator, as I am sure you are aware, our goal is to bring about a solution to the conflict in Central America. This Administration is committed to a policy which places emphasis on strengthening the democratic opposition within Nicaragua as well as vigorously pursuing negotiations through the Contadora process or any other appropriate forum.

This Administration has clearly stated as well that we will engage in simultaneous talks with Nicaragua if the Sandinista government will also engage in internal dialogue with its political opposition -- a step the Sandinista's have steadfastly refused to take. The Contadora nations have also backed a negotiated peace based upon internal reconciliation and democracy. Only by acting together with the other democracies in the region can we hope to bring an end to the conflict within Nicaragua and between Nicaragua and its neighbors.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

William L. Ball, III
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Albert Gore United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

WLB: KRJ: JWR: jwr

cc: w/copy of inc to Ron Sable -- fyi

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, Legislative Affairs, Dept of State -- fyi

President Ronald Reagan 1600 Pennslyvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I recently received a petition signed by several hundred of my fellow citizens of Tennessee, calling for a full investigation of allegations concerning the illegal funding of the Nicaraguan Contras, for resumption of bilateral talks with Nicaragua, and for support of the Contadora peace process.

These are reasonable requests by informed citizens heeding the strong call of their consciences. They are led by a desire for a just and effective United States policy toward Central America.

I support these requests.

Sincerely,

Albert Gore Jr.

United States Senator

AG/jro

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 011

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 12, 1987

NAME OF CO	RRESPONDENT:	MR. TED S	. JOHNS	NC			
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1. Cubo NATION SUPERINTENDENT: TED JOHNSON,18105 SHAMROCK BLVD., BIG RAPIDS, MI 49307 (616) 796-3147

February 6, 1987

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

This comes to let you know that my confidence in your has not been shaken one bit by the Iran Contra affair. So what that money went to the Contra's; it's a worthy cause, and they needed it!

I simply want to urge you to "hang in there" --- we need you.

This country needs your continued strong leadership...your example of faith and trust in God ... your strong pro-life stance ... your keen recognition of the insidious infiltation of Communism and your determination to withstand it...your firm stance against Soviet expansion...your fight to hold the line on taxes...your sensitivity to the scourge of pornography, illegal drugs, and crime ...etc...etc.

I verily believe you are God's man "for such a time as this". You are in our prayers daily. May God renew you with the necessary physical vigor, and the moral courage and stamina to continue to give us the leadership you have demonstrated to date.

Again, HANG IN THERE -- We need you!

Sincerely,

Ted S. Johnson

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

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INFO ACOC-01 AGRI-01 NSC-05 AF-05 NEA-03 PFRC-02 IPFA-01 VBRA-01 VBXN-01 VBE-01 VBF-01 VBN-01 WANG-06 IPF-01 IPFO-01 /041 A2 2 VBR-Ø1

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E. O. 12356: N/A SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: "IRANGATE."

ON ITS "POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT" PAGE, TODAY'S EDITION OF THE DAILY "ANALYSTE" SHORT ITEM ENTITLED "THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF AMERICAN ARMS SALES." FULL TEXT FOLLOWS:

"IRANIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE JUST MADE PUBLIC THEIR VERSION OF THE AFFAIR OF AMERICAN ARMS FURNISHED TO THEIR COUNTRY. IN FACT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE IRANANIAN PARLIAMENT, HASHEMI RAFSANYANI ANNOUNCED IN HIS SERMON AT LAST FRIDAY'S PRAYER SERVICE THAT HIS COUNTRY HAD RECEIVED A RANSOM FROM THE UNITED STATES IN EXCHANGE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AMERICAN HOSTAGES IN LEBANOŅ. " GIULIANO ΒT **=9725**

NSC#8609008

DUE: 31 DEC 86 STATUS S FILES WH

RECEIVED 29 DEC 86 15

FOR INFO

TO

KEEL

FROM WICK, C

DOCDATE 29 DEC 86

KEYWORDS: IRAN

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ACTION: APPROPRIATE ACTION

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO IRAN INVESTIGATION

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

COOTI PRO16

December 9, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR WHITE HOUSE STAFF

FROM:

PAT BUCHANAN

SUBJECT:

CJ

The Iran Debate: 1979-1986

A number of individuals -- from Capitol Hill, the media, and the previous administration -- have criticized the President in recent weeks for his handling of U.S. policy toward Iran. It is instructive to review where these parties stood in the Iran debate over the past seven years.

For example, the President has stressed the strategic importance of Iran; our critics, from Walter Mondale to Cyrus Vance, have made similar statements going back many years. I've attached a sample, as well as reports from the public record of Carter Administration's contemplated arms sales to the Ayatollah in 1980.

The press also seems to have forgotten its 1985-86 drumbeat in favor of more efforts by the Administration to secure the release of hostages held in Lebanon. I have attached a sample of statements by the hostage families for your information.

"REAGAN MUST DO MORE TO GET THE HOSTAGES OUT"

For the past two years, President Reagan has been bombarded with questions from the White House press corps about his efforts to secure the release of U.S. hostages held in Lebanon.

The media took up the plight of the hostage families as a <u>cause celebre</u>. An October 1986 <u>Newsweek</u> feature story was titled "America's Forgotten Hostages." The press gave wide coverage to the families' assertions that this Administration was not doing all it could to secure the release of Terry Anderson, David Jacobsen, Benjamin Weir and the other captives.

Peggy Say, sister of Terry A. Anderson, 37, an Associated Press correspondent kidnapped in March 1985, said on the "CBS Morning News" that she does not believe Reagan considered the hostages' plight before ordering the raid [on Libya]. "It was an act almost designed to put them blatantly in danger," she said.

—— Washington Post, 4/19/86

"After six years in the Marine Corps and staying on in Beirut to bring that truth to the American people, he put his life on the line for both his country and his profession. He must feel a terrible abandonment by both of them."

Peggy Say Newsweek, 10/20/86

"[Reagan] is waging a war which he hopes will save lives of Americans in the future, but there are lives of innocent victims that need to be saved now."

> Eric Jacobsen, son of David Jacobsen, quoted in Washington Post, 4/27/86

"We can't find these captors and talk to them, but we can make sure that our government and the captors know that we will not give up."

-- Jean Sutherland, wife of hostage Tom Sutherland Washington Post, 6/10/86 "We urge the State Department to do what it can before conditions in...Lebanon get to the point where we might never be able to get them out."

--- John Weir, son of Benjamin Weir New York Times, 3/23/85

Carol Weir, wife of a Presbyterian minister kidnapped in Beirut, said yesterday that, after 10 months of being patient, she is "upset and angry" and convinced that the problem in securing his release is "not in Beirut, not in Damascus, but in Washington."

--- Washington Post, 3/21/85

I can't tell you why, but the Administration and corporate America decided it was best to shut the case up. The Shi'ites had captured Jerry because they wanted their story told. But the media were told not to publicize it. That way the Administration didn't have to deal with it because the public didn't know about it. Call it quiet diplomacy.

--- Lucille Levin, husband of Jerry Levin, in People, 5/15/85

Columns critical of the President's handling of the hostage situation appeared in a number of major newspapers:

Given the right type of pressure, Reagan will do whatever is necessary to set Americans free. But without such pressure, almost always in the form of the publicity surrounding the hijacking last year of TWA Flight 847 or the arrest of journalist Nicholas S. Daniloff, there is no dealing.

--- Former Sen. James G. Abourezk (D-S.D.)
Los Angeles Times, 10/1/86

...it would be a severe blow to the confidence of Americans abroad if they did not trust that their government would relentlessly pursue their freedom through all honorable means. A resolve not to "compromise with terrorists" must at least be matched with relentless dedication to secure their captives' release.

--- Christian Science Monitor editorial, 7/29/86

Unlike President Carter, who wore his hostages like a hairshirt in the last year of his presidency, Reagan has kept his distance from the families of the Americans held in Lebanon. It is not like him. He relates powerfully to individuals in trouble, always seizing the particular over the general. But in this instance, he has reversed himself. He is overlooking the welfare of four known individuals in the interest of unknown Americans who might meet a similar fate.

--- Mary McGrory
Washington Post, 4/27/86

And the New York Times editorial writers kept the heat on at nearly every opportunity.

Work with anybody who may be able to help use private and unpublicized channels...keep hoping for the best. That's not an exhiliarating formula. It prolongs the agony for the families of four Americans and two French citizens cruelly held hostage by terrorists in Lebanon... That formular, however, is the best the Reagan Administration can devise for dealing with Islamic Holy War zealots. President Reagan, it turns out, is every bit as frustrated as President Carter was in the 1979 U.S. Embassy seizure in Teheran.

--- New York Times editorial, 5/22/85

Where does that leave seven other Americans held imprisoned somewhere in Lebanon? Pretty much where they were before the notorious hijacking: out of the camera's sight, out of the public's mind.

--- New York Times editorial, 9/12/86

STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF IRAN

President Reagan has emphasized the strategic importance of Iran. While this fact has been largely ignored by his critics in the present controversy, virtually every major figure in the Democratic foreign policy establishment has stated on the record that Iran is strategically critical to the superpower relationship.

Virtually the entire Carter-Mondale foreign policy apparatus has warned of the dangers of letting Iran slip into the Soviet sphere of influence:

"The biggest threat to our security would be if the Soviets should be tempted to move into Iran or to move into an area where they can control the Persian Gulf itself or access to it."

--- Jimmy Carter
Interview, 10/6/80

"...anyone who looks at the Persian Gulf and Iran realizes that that is perhaps the most strategic and touchy area in the world."

--- Walter Mondale

"Issues and Answers," 1/18/81

"We, I think, should all recognize that Iran, located where it is, is of strategic importance to our own security interests as well as the interests of the Western World and all countries depending upon the flow of oil from the Persian Gulf region. It is on the periphery of the Soviet Union and the significance of Iran's location is something that we have to take into consideration in terms of our future relationship."

--- Edmund Muskie "Issues and Answers," 1/25/81

It was obvious too that the Soviets had a vested interest in preventing a settlement.

The Other Side of the Story
1984, p. 271

Our fear was that the military high command, composed of individuals hand-picked by the Shah for their personal loyalty to him, might disintegrate on his departure, plunging the country either into a devastating civil war, which the Soviet Union would then exploit, or into chaos, resulting in the seizure of power by Khomeini. Since the late November exchanges with us, the foreign policy dimension was of increasing concern to us, and we were especially mindful of the certainty that a civil war in Iran would be a windfall for the Soviet Union.

--- Zbigniew Brzezinski
Power and Principle, 1983
p. 379

"Every interest of the U.S. is served by [cessation of Iran-Iraq war]. Our interest in stability in the area, our interest in keeping the oil flowing, our interest in the safe return of the hostages."

--- Warren Christopher

"Face the Nation," 9/28/80

Other Democrat lights agree:

"[The Soviets] must know that if part of their plan is to move toward the Persian Gulf that means war."

--- Clark Clifford Facts on File, 2/8/80

The importance of Iran to Western strategy is an undisputed fact.... An Iran dependent on or dominated by its next-door neighbor, the Soviet Union, would be a catastrophe for the West.

--- Pierre Salinger
America Held Hostage, 1981
p. 5

Rep. Lee H. Hamilton, D-Ind., said his Middle East subcommittee will conduct hearings on future U.S. policy aimed at preventing Iran's falling under Soviet domination, and keeping Iran's oil flowing to the West. "It is not necessary for us to love Khomeini, but we do have to try to maintain our interests," Hamilton said.

--- AP, 1/24/81

[Sen. Henry M.] Jackson called on the administration to "stop thinking and talking" as if the Iranian nation -- rather than the Soviet Union -- is the major adversary.

--- Washington Post, 4/25/80

SELECTED DEMOCRAT STATEMENTS ON IRAN

The Iranian arms situation is a policy problem, a legal problem, and a political problem for the Reagan Administration. With respect to the political aspects of the problem, a few statements by Democrats in Congress are revealing.

The senior Senator from Massachusetts considers the Iranian debacle to signal "open season" on the entire Reagan agenda:

"It's the end of the Reagan era," said Sen. Edward Kennedy. "If there was any doubt that it ended with the election, it ended last night" with the Reagan news conference.

--- Associated Press, 11/21/86

Mike Barnes tries to contain his enthusiasm:

"The natural instinct is, 'This is terrific -- it means we're going to take the White House in 1988,'" [Rep. Michael] Barnes said. But he said that "as a party, we'd best be careful."

--- AP, 12/2/86

Senator Leahy on due process:

"I want people tried and convicted."
--- Sen. Patrick Leahy
UPI, 11/29/86

Leahy and Bumpers on the need for 535 additional national security advisers:

"Now that the White House has shown it can't act responsibly or won't act responsibly...we'll legislate in some responsibility."

--- Sen. Patrick Leahy

Washington Post, 11/20/86

"You can't have a significant foreign policy initiative being undertaken without a single member of Congress being informed."

--- Sen. Dale Bumpers
Washington Post, 11/20/86

Six years ago, the Democrats urged caution -- for the sake of hostages in Teheran:

"Now is the time to keep our shirts on and our heads screwed onto our shoulders. This is not the time for a lot of hot air."

--- Sen. Robert Byrd AP, 3/21/80

"This is a time to be cool."

--- Sen. George McGovern
AP, 11/11/79

But when our embassy personnel came home after 444 days in captivity, the "Blame America First" caucus went into high gear:

"I don't see how we can avoid going into the background -- into why so many Iranians are so deeply hostile to the United States."

--- Sen. Alan Cranston
AP, 1/24/81

One wonders whom our critics would prefer instead to manage American relations with Iran. Here's a sample of the wisdom of

"Khomeini will be somewhat of a saint when we get over the panic."

our former Ambassador to the United Nations:

--- Andrew Young Facts on File, 1979

Sister of U.S. Hostage in Lebanon Praises Reagan for His 'Courage'

By WILLIAM G. BLAIR

174

A sister of an American captive in Lebanon, long a critic of Administration policy on the hostage issue, has written a letter to President Reagan in support of his Iran initiative and expressed "a deep sense of shame" that she had not spoken out sooner.

Peggy Say, sister of Terry A. Anderson, the 39-year-old captive chief Middle East correspondent of The Associated Press, wrote the embattled President that his "example of strength and courage in the face of criticism and censure prompted me to stand up and be counted as one more person that believes you pursued the right and just course."

Mrs. Say, reached by telephone at her home in Batavia, N.Y., said none of yesterday's developments, including the resignation of the President's national security adviser, Vice Adm. John M. Poindexter, had changed her mind.

"'Arms for Hostages' is a gross oversimplification of what has gone into this initiative but the next time somebody asks me if I want my brother back under those circumstances, instead of taking the cowardly way out and saying 'No comment,' my answer will be 'You're damn right I do!'" Mrs. Say, who is 45 years old, said in her letter to Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Anderson, who was abducted in Beirut in March 1985 by Islamic Holy War, a pro-Iranian Shiite Moslem group, is one of two American hostages still being held in Lebanon. Three others have been released since the secret Reagan Administration initiative began in September 1985. Still another is believed to be dead.

Mrs. Say, who has frequently prode to us to determine the met ded the Reagan Administration to do to us to support the goal."

more about winning the release of the hostages, said yesterday that she "felt differently" about the Iran initiative and had sent both open and private letters to President Reagan on Monday after "watching him struggle" at his news conference last week.

The open letter, she said, was sent to the newspaper USA Today, which printed it yesterday. The private letter, which she said was "essentially the same but slightly shorter and more personal," was sent to the White House.

"I know that I will be subjected to a great deal of criticism" for the letter, Mrs. Say said yesterday, "but I feel a tremendous sense of relief that I did the right thing and that I did what Terry would have wanted me to do."

After opening with an expression of her "support and deepest gratitude for the risks" the President assumed in dealing with Iran, Mrs. Say's letter said: "I apologize for not speaking out in strong support sooner, and feel a deep sense of shame at trying to evade the controversy surrounding this initiative."

"Like hundreds of thousands of others, in pleas, letters, and petitions, I urged you to do whatever needed to be done to gain the freedom of these men," Mrs. Say said. "I believe that you chose the course that you determined would be most effective in both the short and long term."

"If your initiative leads to reconciliation with Iran as a prelude to a peace plan in the Middle East, then all of the suffering will have been worthwhile," Mrs. Say said, adding that "it is not up to us to determine the method, it is up to us to support the goal."

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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PAGE 36

114TH STORY of Level 2 printed in FULL format.

The Associated Press

The materials in the AP file were compiled by The Associated Press. These materials may not be republished without the express written consent of The Associated Press.

November 14, 1986, Friday, AM cycle

SECTION: Washington Dateline

LENGTH: 794 words

HEADLINE: Lawmakers Keep Up Criticism of Administration's Iranian Policy

BYLINE: By TIM AHERN, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

KEYWORD: Congress- Iran

BODY:

Several members of Congress, unsatisfied with President Reagan's explanation of secret U.S. dealings with Iran, said Friday the shipment of arms to Tehran might harm American efforts to win allied support in the fight against worldwide terrorism.

Negative reaction from both Democratic and Republican lawmakers continued in the aftermath of Reagan's primetime speech on the subject Thursday night, in which Reagan said the arms shipments were intended as a signal that the United States wanted better relations with the Moslem fundamentalist nation.

Reagan on Friday reiterated in a White House speech that he would not use arms as ransom to liberate Americans held hostage in Lebanon by pro-Iranian elements.

Sen. Pete Wilson, R-Calif., said Friday, "I think the strategic goals of trying to open contacts with Iran were commendable. It is a high-risk situation because of the risk that our allies would see it as a break in the policy that we have announced of not dealing with terrorists. "But he also said, "Personally, I think they (the Reagan administration) should have chosen some other means (to show good faith) than arms, like medical supplies. The president took a risk in sending the arms. I'm not sure I would have taken that risk. "Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, R-Md., said in a statement issued in Istanbul, Turkey, that "there should be no exception to the practice of a coordinated policy against terrorism. If the Western countries agree to act collectively, we cannot make exceptions. "Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., second-ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said, "the president seemed very uncomfortable with the explanation he was giving, in my view." Biden, interviewed on the "CBS Morning News," said, "It seems as though the president just underscored the fact that this is a policy that somehow went awry. "House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., was sharply critical of the White House, saying that, "I still think that the most important thing to them was 'let's get these hostages home before the election, it'll help us."' There's no way you can justify, in my opinion, the policy of this government in giving arms to Iran, " he told reporters.

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The Associated Press, November 14, 1986

O'Neill said Congress "ought to have an investigation" and said the House Intelligence Committee will begin an investigation next week when Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., chairman of the panel, returns to the United States from a trio abroad.

In Indianapolis, Sen. Richard G. Lugar, R-Ind., defended Reagan's policy.

However, Lugar also predicted that "there will be considerable debate over the judgment of the president" to keep the relationship with Iranians a secret for 18 months.

"The president was on the right course in attempting to fashion a new relationship with Iran, " said Lugar, who has been chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for the past two years.

Lugar said that the arms shipments were a good-faith gesture to Iranian moderates and that they responded by helping secure the release of three American hostages held in Lebanon.

Lugar told a news conference that Reagan's decision not to inform key administration officials and Congress of the relationship with Iran could be a mistake.

"I think this is a problem. My guess is we do better in our diplomacy if all the major players are involved," Lugar said.

Sen. James Exon, D-Neb., said Reagan's actions "are certainly morally wrong" and called his dealings with Iran "a clear case of duplicity." "He has damaged his credibility everywhere and if the American people buy this one, God help us," Exon told a news conference.

Exon said he was fooled by Reagan last summer when Exon voted to sustain a presidential veto of a congressional resolution that would have blocked the sale of missiles to Saudi Arabia. Exon's vote was critical because the Senate voted to override the veto by a 66-34 margin, one vote less than the two-thirds majority needed to enact the measure into law.

"He told me that the Saudis needed the arms to protect their oil fields from Iran, "said Exon. "Before and after that, he was secretly supplying arms to Iran that obviously could be used against the Saudis." Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said, "the more we learn, the clearer it becomes that the administration has been duped by our enemies and duplications with our allies and with the American people. "Levin told a news conference, "it is a terrible policy. The explanation doesn't wash. "Last night the president tried to draw a technical distinction between our negotiations with Iran and ransom, "he said. "But it is impossible to draw a moral distinction between the two acts. As a result, we may have lost our ability to provide moral leadership to any international anti-terrorist campaign."

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The attached letter was
sent to the Vice Chairmen of the
Committees on Foreign Affairs,
Intelligence, Government Operations,
Judiciary and Armed Services.

ROBERT H. MICHEL
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-0600

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Re investigation of framin aims Sales

Office of the Republican Leader United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

December 9, 1986

461167

The Honorable Bob Stump Vice Chairman House Intelligence Committee House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Bob:

Until such time as the new Speaker and I have completed the make-up of the special committee to investigate the Iranian arms sales, I would like to make an effort to keep on top of events and maintain a depository here of all pertinent requests for information or other materials you and your Committee may generate that will be of benefit to the special Committee when it receives its charter in January.

I have asked Mike Johnson, my Chief of Staff, to begin assembling records and information for the special committee and specifically for those Republican Members who will serve on it.

I have asked the White House to cooperate in this endeavor and provide Mike with requests and other information of pertinence.

Hopefully, by monitoring the paper flow between now and then, we will be one step ahead of the game when the special committee is finally empowered and operable. Having a central depository may eliminate a good deal of work next January trying to uncover who has been doing what in the interim.

Please ask you staff directors and/or counsels to keep us informed as to the scheduling of meetings, requests for information from other sources and any other information which will obviously fall under the purview of the special committee.

Mike Johnson may be reached in Room H-229, The Capitol, at 225-0600.

 $(/\langle \cdot \rangle)$

Sincere

Robert H. Michel Republican Leader

RHM:dhj

cc: Honorable Jim Wright
Honorable Frank Carlucci
Will Ball
Members of Republican House Leadership

461177

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 5, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR DONALD T. REGAN

FROM: DENNIS THOMAS

SUBJECT: Iran - A Strategy/General Observations

This is to address how we can best utilize our "other than President Reagan" assets -- press, Hill, political, etc. -- to communicate to the American people the positive actions that have been taken by the President and this Administration since the Iran issue has come to light. Those making up this infrastructure are in a unique position to carry this message. They can speak to the post-Iran revelations and not take the "what did you do" questions. Instead they can outline the President's leadership in getting to the bottom of the matter and his sharing everything with the American people.

Administration officials can be used in a different, but equally important way -- reassurance that we are governing -- in foreign policy, in domestic matters, and in setting the agenda.

Our focus should be on what the President has done to "get out the facts." Fifty-nine percent of the people trust the President. We must reinforce this view -- because unless that special relationship between the President and the public is maintained there will not be an acceptance of what we say, irrespective of the facts. Our strongest message is the affirmative action the President has taken -- the Tower Commission, the Independent Counsel, appointing anew NSC Advisor, the willingness to cooperate with the Hill, and finally the complete and immediate sharing of information with the American people.

If we cannot convince the public of the correctness of our policy toward Iran and of the facts surrounding its implementation, we can demonstrate leadership and restore confidence by those actions taken after learning of the policy and the transfer of monies.

This is particularly important because Dick Wirthlin finds less than one out of ten persons identifies Iran as the most important issue. Therefore, if we show leadership in handling this issue and leadership on the other issues that are of importance to people we have the potential of rebuilding popular opinion to acceptable levels.

In summary we need to energize our support systems and spokesmen and emphasize what we have done to secure the facts and our leadership in other issues. What follows is an outline of the activities for your consideration. You can review this over the weekend and then reconvene the group on Monday to discuss and then put into motion those recommendations you approve.

CABINET AFFAIRS

Secretaries Shultz, Weinberger and Meese are directly involved in the Iran process and they know what they have to say. They will be consistently questioned. The same is true with CIA Director Casey but he has eschewed public forum. Ambassador Walters can also be put in this category and can directly focus on the details and issues of the Iran crisis.

None of the above should be used in a broad-based appeal to shore up the President's authority and record of success. If they do go out to do this they will be immediately put on the defensive for their roles, whatever they may be, in the Iran crisis. They must, as part of their regular public affairs programs, in their talks defend the President first, his policies and their roles in the Administration.

Regarding the rest of the Cabinet some things are obvious. The Secretary of Energy or Interior or Transportation simply cannot go out and make a speech on Iran. What they should do is step up their normal speaking efforts to their regular constituencies as well as the particular areas that are discussed below and make speeches about: (a) their particular areas; (b) their Department's roles in the 1987 agenda: (c) the Administration's program in general.

In their role of promoting the President they will have to allude to Iran. When Iran does come up they essentially should respond to the effect that the President has made certain policy decisions for good and sufficient reasons (and they can elaborate on that) that he believes they were sound reasons, but he recognizes that the majority of the American people disagree with that judgment and that therefore he has suspended all such activities with Iran.

He also recognizes that the diversion of funds was totally improper. He and other top Administration officials were surprised by the revelation. He has taken all of the necessary steps to ensure that that kind of violation of not only law and ethics but his own directives cannot happen again.

Talking points will be provided the Cabinet and sub-Cabinet official to achieve the above. They need to be asked to speak out.

To that end there might be two full Cabinet meetings in the near future. A briefing for the Cabinet on Iran -- what has happened, what did not happen, and what the Administration's position is on all of the relevant matters. (The Cabinet and the White House staff have yet to be briefed on these issues.)

A second Cabinet meeting should also be held before Christmas focusing entirely on the 1987 agenda -- a pre-State of the Union meeting so that the President can indicate the agenda for 1987, receive feedback from the Cabinet and allow the Cabinet to prepare itself over the holidays as well as for the President to consider Cabinet input.

During the holidays we should revive a practice we have had in the past of making some domestic announcement every day the President is away. Since we may not want to reveal the specific details of the State of the Union this early it becomes important to make sure these events are important enough without diminishing the effect of the State of the Union Address.

Regarding particular constituencies several of the Cabinet members are particularly strong in certain areas.

Secretary Hodel has strong followings in the south and southwest and also with the Christian communities and should step up his exposure there. Similarly Secretary Brock is also strong in the south and also among the large city editorial boards. Secretary Baker is strong in Texas, in the money centers and the major city editorial boards. Secretary Dole is especially strong with conservatives in general and Democratic conservatives in particular.

In general all of our efforts must begin to focus on issues such as trade, competitiveness, agriculture and energy that will be the focus on the domestic program.

CABINET AFFAIRS ACTION

Schedule a meeting with the President and the full Cabinet the week of December 8th to brief on Iran.

Approve
 Disapprove
Let's Discuss

Schedule a meeting with the President and the full Cabinet the week of December 15th to discuss agenda for 1987.

Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	

CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Our best ally in dealing with the Hill is information. In providing facts to our Republican leaders they have been able to speak out on behalf of the resident

The meetings with the Bipartisan Leaders last week and the meeting schedule for this Friday reinforce the perception the President is open and dealing with this in a bipartisan way. This will increasingly seem to be in sharp contrast to the more shrill and partisan statements made by certain Democratic Members of Congress.

Continued meetings with Republican Members and the President and the Chief of Staff will build on the base of support established already. There is also a need to insure a coordinated response to Hill requests for testing and information. This involves not only requests of the White House but Administration-wide requests.

Consistent with our goal to both handle Iran and focus on other issues, additional Congressional meetings on non-Iran matters are in order. Senator Bentsen is undertaking a trip to Canada regarding trade. A follow-up meeting would be good. Speaker Wright has requested a SALT II meeting, Senator Domenici and Senator Domenici require Presidential direction regarding the budget. There is a Freshman orientation next week -- and they are scheduled to visit with the President.

All of the above represent opportunities to demonstrate leadership -- on Iran and non-Iran matters. Continued contact with the President and other White House and Administration persons can serve to diminish the criticism and increase the support.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES ACTION

Schedule a meeting with Senator Bentsen and the President and appropriate Administration officials following his trip to Canada.

Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	
Schedule the already agree on Salt II.	ed to meeting with Speaker Wright
Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	
Schedule a Budget meeting prior to Christmas break.	with Senator Dole and Domenici
Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	
	tial statement to Republican er 10th, 10:00 a.m., White House
Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	
Invite key Republicans in solicit their views on St	for series of meetings with DTR to
Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	

Regular meetings with DTR and key House/Senate Republicans -- to keep informed and to seek advice.

Approve	
Disapprove	
Let's Discuss	

PRESS ACTIVITIES

The objective is to seek as many credible non-Administration persons to engage the press as much as possible. The message must be the good action the President has taken to get to the bottom of this matter

PRESS ACTIVITIES ACTIONS

Attached is a recommended series of press events that we could have to generate. You will need to review the interview that would take place Sunday and Monday in order to seek their participation.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1986

11:00 am NBC Meet the Press Henry Kissinger is guest

12 noon CBS Face the Nation
Jeanne Kirkpatrick is guest

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1986

8:00 am Sperling Breakfast Group Paul Laxalt is guest

10:00 am Congressman Bob Michel, Congressman Trent
Lott and Congressman Dick Cheney hold press
conference to stress administration's
willingness to cooperate with House
committee.

11:00 am Senator Bob Dole and Senator Alan Simpson hold press conference to stress administration's willingness to cooperate with Senate committee.

3:00 pm Tower Review group meets with the President to outline his plans for study of National Security Council. Announces staff structure and details of their approach to the review of NSC policy and procedures.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1986

3:30 pm President meets with Republican Governors.
He reiterates his willingness to "get to the bottom of" the Iranian matter.

4:00 pm Republican governors brief press on their view of the Iranian situation.

4:30 pm Republican governors interviewed by local program networks for direct feeds to key television stations in their home states.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1986

7:00 am	Attorney General Meese appears on Good Morning America.
10:00 am	Frank Fahrenkopf makes speech in which he stresses party stability under Reagan leadership.
10: 4 5 am	President meets with newly-elected Representatives of Congress, stresses his willingness to cooperate with House committee.
3:00 pm	Vice President Bush makes major address reiterating points made in American Enterprise Institute speech.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1986

8:00 am	Senator Laxalt meets with Conservative Breakfast Club group.
10:00 am	Secretary Shultz makes major address to stress stability and forward approach to United States foreign policy.
2:00 pm	Briefing by key White House officials for selected panelists on Sunday television interview shows: John McLaughlin Mort Kondracke Fred Barnes Hugh Sidey James J. Kilpatrick

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1986

10:00 am

Pat Buchanan meets with conservative columnists.

OP ED PIECES

Op Ed pieces to be placed in major newspapers:

New York Times
Washington Post
Los Angeles Times
Chicago Tribune
Wall Street Journal

Zbigniew Brzezinski Gerald Ford Henry Kissinger Anne Armstrong James J. Kilpatrick

PUBLIC LIAISON ACTIVITIES

The effort here would be to "get the message out." As you will see in reading the following contacts would be made with a myriad of groups and with individuals other than the President.

As in the past if the schedule allows the need requires we could involve the President to do a drop-by. Office of Public Liaison is prepared to move quickly on this meeting -- many next week.

I. Meetings/Speaking Engagements

- a. In House
 - -- December 17: National Religious Broadcasters Executive Board
 - -- New Right Leadership
 - -- Heritage Foundation and other public policy "think tanks" analysts and surrogate speakers.
 - -- Veteran Organization leadership
 - -- Briefing for National Republican Heritage Groups Council, Room 450, December 10, 2-3:15
 - -- Meetings for Jewish, ethnic and hispanic leaders with Pat Buchanan and Mari Maseng
 - -- December 10 Roosevelt Room lunch with top association presidents (Lesher, Trowbridge, Maury and Van Dongen)
 - -- December 11 3:00 p.m. Roosevelt Room meeting with ten key Washington business leaders
 - -- December 12 2:00 p.m. Roosevelt Room meeting with leaders from small business
 - -- December 15 10:00 a.m. Roosevelt Room meeting with business groups on mandated benefits
 - -- December 16 3:00 p.m. meeting in Room 208 OEOB with presidents of ten other major associations

a. In-House Meetings continued:

- -- December 18 10:00 a.m. Roosevelt Room meeting with ten key Washington business leaders
- -- Two meetings for top CEO's on trade with Mr. Regan
- -- An additional Washington business leader meeting with Will Ball
- -- A meeting for Washington energy leaders with NSC and legislative affairs
- -- Urban Affairs Meetings:
 - a. Public education
 - b. Higher education
 - c. Employment and training
 - d. Minority business development
 - e. The Economy (including possible activities to extend the economic recovery to black communities).
- -- 1987 budget and trade briefing for Presidents of national women's organizations and female business leaders.
- -- Defense and foreign policy briefing for the Daughters of the American Revolution.
- -- Luncheon for Presidents of national women's organizations.

b. Outside

- -- Pat Buchanan address Stanton Group
- -- Pat Buchanan address Conservative Opportunity Society luncheon.
- -- Dade County, Florida, Republican Committee and other Cuban American organizations are hosting a "Support the President" rally at the Dade County Civic Center on Monday, December 8, at 7:00 p.m.
- -- National Jewish Coalition dinner with Pat Buchanan as guest speaker
- -- Linas Kojelis to address luncheon hosted by Association of American Women, Los Angeles, December 15.

II. Radio

- -- Contact America
- -- International Christian Media
- -- National Forum Foundation
- -- Moody Broadcasting
- -- Work with National Forum Foundation to get pro-Administration speakers (Burt Pines, etc.) on up to 150 radio stations.
- -- Briefing for Hispanic Media
- -- Briefing for Ethnic Media

III. Television

- -- 700 Club
- -- Falwell Live
- -- CBN News
- -- The U.S. Chamber's BizNet TV

IV. Mailings

- -- Evangelical leaders and Media (1,300)
- -- Inter-denominational religious leaders (350)
- -- Catholic leaders (300)
- -- Mail all appropriate Presidential and Vice Presidential speeches, and White House press releases to our mailing list.
- -- Background pieces or information to major associations.
- -- ASAE could mail to 1, 000 associations

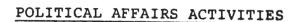
- -- Pro-Administration press releases, and offers to speak to the press from following people/organizations:
 - Gerry Carmen, President, Citizens for America Α.
 - Daniel Graham, President, Coalition for the В. Strategic Defense Initiative
 - Stanley Gecys, President, Lithuanian American Community of U.S.A., Inc.
 - Burt Pines, Heritage Foundation E.
 - F. Oscar Moran, LULAC
 - Hector Barreto, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of G. Commerce
 - Η. Jose Sorzano, Cuban American Foundation
 - I. Carlos Perez, Freedom for Democracy
 - J. David Morales, National Association of Hispanic Contractors
 - Κ. Steve Denlinger, President, Latin American Manufacturers Association
 - L.
 - Rudy Sanchez, President, Hispanic Americana Alba Moeser, President, National Council of Μ. Hispanic Women
 - Dr. Ana Perera, Past President of Cuban Women N. Foundation
 - 0. Fernando DeBaca, Chairman of RNHA
 - Ρ. Frank Vinh, Vietnamese Republican Organization
 - Joy Cherian, Asian American Voters Coalition Q.
 - Fuad Sahouri, Chairman, American-Arab Business and Professional Association R.
- Print Materials We could work to generate favorable oped pieces in newspapers and major periodicals. Business groups who would help -
 - Council for National Policy
 - Citizens for a Sound Economy
 - Wall and Ceiling Contractors
 - COMET

We could probably also get help from others like -

- Amer TRucking Assoc
- Edison Electric Institute
- American Paper Institute
- National Soft Drink Association
- American Electronic Association

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With	your	approval	the	above	activities	will	be	undertaken
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Disapprove								
т	.e+1e	Discuss						



There are a number of efforts underway to try to use our political assets to get the President's message out on the Iranian problem, and, ultimately, moving beyond the subject. There are other ways in which our political allies can be helpful.

The Republican National Committee, Citizens for America and Project '88 have already disseminated material to their leadership in all 50 states making our points and urging support of the President. All three organizations have been encouraging their leaders to speak out on behalf of the President.

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A number of Republican party leaders in the various states have issued statements or made comments to the media in support of the President and, particularly, of the actions taken concerning the independent counsel, etc. Results are somewhat mixed, both in terms of effort by the state and local party leaders and in acceptance and use by local media.

We are monitoring the party effort daily and are staying in close touch not only with the RNC but with the state leaders directly. We're keeping similar close contact with groups like CFA and Project '88.