

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

09-Feb-1991 10:38 EDT

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

(WHSR_ROUTER@WHSR)

SUBJECT:

PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: LETTER FROM THE

<DIST>

PRT: BOOK GATES HILL SCOWCROFT SIT SITTMANN
SIT: FILE HAASS CHARLES PAVITT ROSTOW WELCH WHSR_IRAQ WORKING PRES_MSGS
SIT SUM VAX BRANSCUM

<PREC>

IMMEDIATE

<CLAS>

~~SECRET~~

<OSRI>

RUEHC

<DTG>

090528Z FEB 91

<ORIG>

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

<TO>

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE 6621

<SUBJ>

PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: LETTER FROM THE
PRESIDENT TO KING HUSSEIN

<TEXT>

BT

~~SECRET~~ STATE 043327

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: OVIP, JO (BUSH. GEORGE)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE: LETTER FROM THE
PRESIDENT TO KING HUSSEIN

1. ~~SECRET~~/NODIS - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. TO BE DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY.

BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR MAJESTY:

I AM NOT GOING TO HIDE MY DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT WITH YOUR
SPEECH OF FEBRUARY 6. I HAD NOT EXPECTED, SO SOON AFTER

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 12958

98-0099-F/4
20 Mar 03 MW

I SENT A PERSONAL ENVOY TO YOU AND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING YOUR FRIENDLY LETTER URGING FURTHER DIALOGUE, TO READ SUCH A VITRIOLIC ATTACK ON THE INTENTIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE MULTINATIONAL COALITION THAT IS LIBERATING KUWAIT I WILL NOT DETAIL MY MANY FACTUAL DISAGREEMENTS WITH WHAT IS IN THE SPEECH, EXCEPT TO SAY, AS I HAVE SO MANY TIMES, THAT WE ARE NOT TARGETING INNOCENT PEOPLE OR HOLY PLACES AND WE ARE NOT TRYING TO DESTROY IRAQ. PERHAPS WHAT WAS NOT IN YOUR SPEECH IS MORE TELLING: THERE IS NO MENTION OF KUWAIT. INSTEAD, YOUR WORDS EXCULPATE SADDAM HUSSEIN FOR THE MOST SERIOUS AND MOST BRAZEN CRIME AGAINST THE ARAB NATION BY ANOTHER ARAB IN MODERN TIMES. I MUST SAY I WAS STRUCK BY THE CONTRAST BETWEEN YOUR REMARKS AND THE POSITIVE AGENDA FOR THE REGION'S (AND IRAQ'S) FUTURE THAT JIM BAKER OUTLINED IN CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY EARLIER THE SAME DAY. IF WE DO NOT AGREE ON THESE MATTERS, SO BE IT. BUT WE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT A PUBLIC, POLITICAL POSTURE THAT TAKES JORDAN SO FAR FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AND ARAB CONSENSUS HAS DAMAGED VERY SERIOUSLY THE PROSPECTS FOR ELICITING INTERNATIONAL HELP FOR JORDAN. IF I AM CIRCUMSPECT IN MY OWN PUBLIC VIEWS ON YOUR ACCUSATIONS, IT IS ONLY BECAUSE I CONTINUE TO PLACE VALUE, HOWEVER UNREQUITED, IN YOUR NATION'S WELL-BEING AND STABILITY. I JUST DO NOT SEE HOW THIS SPEECH IN ANY WAY CONTRIBUTES TO THE STABILITY OF JORDAN THAT WE BOTH WISH TO SEE OR TO THE ABILITY OF JORDAN TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THIS CONFLICT. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I RELUCTANTLY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT RICH ARMITAGE'S TRIP DID NOT HELP, SO I INTEND TO HOLD OFF SENDING ANYONE TO JORDAN.

SINCERELY,
GEORGE BUSH
END TEXT.

3. SIGNED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW.
4. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. BAKER

BT
#3327

<SECT>
SECTION: 01 OF 01
<SSN>
3327
<TOR>
910209102943 MSG000287404183