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Series: Middle East Peace Process Files
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OA/ID Number: 91142
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Folder Title:
Middle East Peace (August 1990)

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	34	3	5	7

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9005776
RECEIVED: 18 JUL 90 09

CHRON FILE

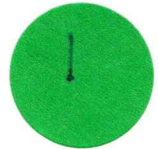
TO: STEIN, JACOB

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 02 AUG 90
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ISRAEL

MP



PERSONS: JACOB, STEIN

SUBJECT: PRES LTR TO STEIN RE ARAB - ISRAELI DISPUTE

ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 21 JUL 90

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

WH STRIPPING DESK

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

HAASS

NSC CHRON

WELCH

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY JRF DATE 8/2 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSJRP

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET
ID 9005776

REFERRAL

DATE: 02 AUG 90

MEMORANDUM FOR: WH STRIPPING DESK

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: STEIN, JACOB
SOURCE: PRESIDENT
DATE: 02 AUG 90
SUBJ: PRES LTR TO STEIN RE ARAB - ISRAELI DISPUTE

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 07 AUG 90

COMMENT:

FOR



GEORGE VAN ERON

DIRECTOR NSC SECRETARIAT

CLIPON FILE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 2, 1990

Dear Jack:

Thanks for your kind words on the NATO Summit. I am confident that we will receive high marks when the history of this era is written.

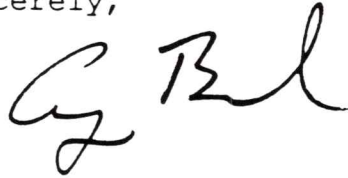
Thanks too for sharing your thoughts on the Middle East. I still think the path of Israeli-Palestinian dialogue leading to elections and negotiations remains the best available course for promoting both peace and Israel's security. We are hopeful that Jim Baker's upcoming meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Levy will pave the way to convening such a dialogue. We also recognize the importance of bridging the gulf that divides Israel from the Arab states. But there is no need to choose between these two objectives; to the contrary, we believe that progress on the Palestinian issue is necessary if we are to have a realistic chance at bringing about meaningful improvement in Israel's relations with its neighbors.

I agree with much of what you have to say about South Africa. We are looking for ways to give President De Klerk the positive response he deserves for the constructive steps he has taken. His visit here should

help in this. As for Max Fisher, I could not agree more. His contributions are considerable and worthy of recognition. I shall look for the appropriate means.

Thanks again for taking the time to write. Barbara joins me in wishing you and Jean all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. B. L.", written in dark ink.

Mr. Jacob Stein
15 Winfield Terrace
Great Neck, New York 11023

8-2

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

1990 JUL 31 PM 8

July 31, 1990

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT 
SUBJECT: Letter From Jacob Stein

Purpose

To respond to Jack Stein's July 9 letter (Tab B).

Background

Jack Stein urged you to consider emphasizing negotiations between the Arab states and Israel, since he believes Shamir will not agree to negotiate with the Palestinians. Our judgment is that the Arabs will refuse any approach that does not address the Palestinian issue as the priority. We also cannot agree with the notion, implicit in Stein's letter, that Israeli security would be unaffected if it does not deal with the Palestinian problem.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Jack Stein at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A Letter to Jacob Stein
Tab B Letter from Jacob Stein

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

July 27, 1990

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

THROUGH: RICHARD N. HAASS

FROM: C. DAVID WELCH

SUBJECT: Response to Jacob Stein

Attached at Tab I is a memo to the President, forwarding a reply to Jack Stein's July 9 letter.

Concurrence by Bob Frasure

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memo to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I	Memo to the President
Tab A	Draft Reply to Jacob Stein
Tab B	Letter from Jacob Stein

JACOB STEIN
15 Winfield Terrace
Great Neck, N.Y. 11023

July 9, 1990

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

Dear Mr. President,

Dear George,

I trust that your visit to England and the NATO meeting was successful. It appears that you have successfully initiated a whole new change in the relationship between the west and their historic adversary, the Soviet Union. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Jean and I returned from London last week after watching Wimbledon. Great tennis! Mr. Gieves, appreciated the signed photo and cuff links and said he had left a "thank you" note at the Embassy.

Allow me a few thoughts on Israel and on our Middle East Policy as it relates to the new government in Israel.

We have thus far been unsuccessful in making meaningful progress through the route of Israel-Palestinian talks. I am concerned that further efforts along this path will create added U.S.-Israel tensions without any possibility of beneficial results. I believe that we had hoped that a resolution of the Israel-Palestinian problem would result in improving Israel-Arab States relations.

I believe that there is little likelihood that the present Shamir led government will negotiate with the Palestinians. Perhaps we should change directions and try to initiate an Arab State-Israel dialogue. The P.L.O was a creation of the Arab States, but it is the Arab States that maintain the state of war with Israel. It is the Arab States, not the Palestinians, that threaten Israel's security.

Perhaps a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Israel, Egypt, and any other Arab State that we can, with the help of the Russians, influence to join, would be an approach worth exploring. The agenda could be peace between Israel and the Arab states. A satisfactory resolution of the Palestinian problem, would be on the agenda in the context of an overall peace settlement. I think recent belligerent threats by Iraq against Israel and the very real military buildup of missile inventory in several of the Middle East States, with a potential for chemical or biological warfare. should move us

to direct our efforts to bring about Israel-Arab States talks.

This might in one sense be called an international conference, but we should avoid that terminology and call it direct negotiations between countries at war.

It appears that one door to a peace process --Israel-Palestinian talks--has been closed if not bolted. Lets' try the other door. Perhaps it can be achieved by involving the Arab States that represent the real threat to Israel.

Mandela. A well orchestrated visit. A polished performance, which should give us some concern. His continued commitment to "use of force," is disconcerting. His high praise for Castro, Qadaffi and Arafat is alarming. But we should be understanding of the support he received by so many for his fight against apartheid.

President de Klerk merits some response for the brave steps he has taken towards ending apartheid. I ask you to consider some balanced positive response to the de Klerk initiatives to encourage him to further action and to show his supporters that his moves are not without international response.

A very personal item. I believe that once or twice a year you honor several Americans who have contributed to the development of our society. I would like to nominate MAX FISHER for such recognition. Max has succeeded as a businessman, is a highly regarded community leader, has served society with competence and dignity in many capacities, and as he nears his 84th birthday I believe that he should be recognized. Please think about it.

As to the "increased revenue" item, my feedback is that Bush is "pragmatic," that now the deficit will be eliminated and interest rates will come down. Very little comment about "read my lips." I guess we can expect that from the Democrats in 1992. I'm ready for it!

Jean joins me in wishing you and Barbara and all the Bush family a healthful and restful Summer.

Written in Friendship

