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Drop-By Arab-American Briefing 9/24/90 [OA 5377]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 21, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *w*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*
SUBJECT: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are draft remarks for the drop-by Arab-American briefing, scheduled for Monday, September 24, at 3:10 p.m. in Room 450 of the E.O.B. You will be addressing approximately 200 Arab-Americans from around the country.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 to 7 minutes/speechcards) restate our objectives in the Persian Gulf, touch on the international response to the crisis, and strongly condemn bigotry and hate-violence against Arab-Americans.

Grant/Grossman
September 21, 1990
8:00 p.m.
A:ARAB

BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
3:10 P.M.

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that you have just been briefed on the current situation in the Persian Gulf, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, culture, or imperialist ambitions -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world. It is about principle.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Saddam Hussein is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing is gaining acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than *Seven* ~~[eight]~~ times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

We must also resist Saddam Hussein's attempts to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait. **We will not be distracted.** Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process.

Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling act of hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, a few hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\

This Administration supported enactment of the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: **All Americans must**

join together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely the multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are now on duty in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, we should remember an old Arab proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall prevail. \\

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**DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING \ ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990 \ 3:10 P.M.**

**WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE. IT'S A PLEASURE TO SEE
SO MANY DISTINGUISHED LEADERS OF THE ARAB-AMERICAN
COMMUNITY HERE TODAY. AND I'M GLAD TO SEE CONGRESSMAN
NICK RAHALL HERE, TOO.**

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**((I'M GOING TO KEEP MY REMARKS BRIEF, BECAUSE IN
THE WORDS OF THE FAMOUS ARAB-AMERICAN POET, KHLIL
GIBRAN [HAH-LEEL JEB-RAHN], "WE SHALL NEVER UNDERSTAND
ONE ANOTHER UNTIL WE REDUCE THE LANGUAGE TO SEVEN
WORDS." I'VE GOT A FEW MORE THAN SEVEN WORDS TODAY,
BUT PLEASE INDULGE ME.))**

**I AM HONORED THAT YOU COULD BE WITH US TO DISCUSS
THE VITAL ISSUE OF OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY, BOTH ABROAD
AND AT HOME.**

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE JUST BEEN BRIEFED ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN THE PERSIAN GULF, AN ISSUE OF CRITICAL CONCERN TO EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM.

YOU MORE THAN MOST UNDERSTAND WHAT IS AT STAKE. OUR ACTION IN THE GULF IS NOT ABOUT RELIGION, NOR IS IT ABOUT GREED, CULTURE, OR IMPERIALIST AMBITIONS -- AS SADDAM HUSSEIN WOULD HAVE THE WORLD BELIEVE. OUR ACTION IN THE GULF IS ABOUT OUR DETERMINATION TO STAND UP TO AGGRESSION -- AND TO PRESERVE THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONS.

IT IS ABOUT KEEPING OUR WORD AND STANDING BY OUR FRIENDS. IT IS ABOUT OUR VITAL NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS AND ENSURING PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE WORLD. IT IS ABOUT PRINCIPLE.

OUR OBJECTIVES REMAIN CLEAR: IRAQ MUST WITHDRAW FROM KUWAIT COMPLETELY, IMMEDIATELY AND WITHOUT CONDITION. \\ KUWAIT'S LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT MUST BE RESTORED. \\ THE SECURITY AND STABILITY OF THE PERSIAN GULF MUST BE ASSURED. \\ AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD MUST BE PROTECTED. \\

AND FINALLY, A FIFTH OBJECTIVE CAN EMERGE FROM THESE: A NEW WORLD ORDER, IN WHICH THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, EAST AND WEST, NORTH AND SOUTH, CAN PROSPER AND LIVE TOGETHER.

THE EXTENT OF WORLD COOPERATION IN CONDEMNING SADDAM HUSSEIN IS UNPRECEDENTED.

THE CONCEPT OF BURDEN-SHARING IS GAINING ACCEPTANCE, WITH OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS -- FROM BRITAIN AND FRANCE TO GERMANY, JAPAN AND THE ARAB WORLD -- CONTRIBUTING TROOPS AND SUPPLIES, AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THOSE COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE. IN FACT, SINCE SADDAM HUSSEIN'S UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON KUWAIT, MORE THAN TWENTY COUNTRIES HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL FOR HELP FROM THE GULF NATIONS TO PROVIDE DEFENSIVE ASSISTANCE AGAINST IRAQ. INDEED, IRAQ STANDS ALONE AGAINST THE WORLD COMMUNITY.

THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL HAS STRONGLY CONDEMNED SADDAM HUSSEIN'S ACTIONS NO LESS THAN SEVEN TIMES. UNITED AGAINST AGGRESSION, THE WORLD COMMUNITY IS WORKING TO RESOLVE THE CRISIS PEACEFULLY.

WE MUST ALSO RESIST SADDAM HUSSEIN'S ATTEMPTS TO LINK THE IRAQI INVASION WITH OTHER REGIONAL CONFLICTS. THIS IS MERELY AN EFFORT TO CREATE ADDITIONAL PRETEXTS SO THAT HE CAN STAY IN KUWAIT. WE WILL NOT BE DISTRACTED. ONCE THE GULF CRISIS IS ON ITS WAY TO RESOLUTION, WE WILL TURN AGAIN TO THE PEACE PROCESS.



OUR POSITION IS CLEAR AND CONSISTENT, CALLING FOR NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. THESE NEGOTIATIONS MUST INVOLVE TERRITORY FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND RECOGNITION FOR ISRAEL, AND LEGITIMATE POLITICAL RIGHTS FOR THE PALESTINIANS.

AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ. OUR MISSION IS TO OPPOSE THE INVASION ORDERED BY SADDAM HUSSEIN.

AS YOU WELL KNOW, LOVE OF JUSTICE, RESPECT AND DIGNITY ARE PRINCIPLES AS DEEPLY EMBEDDED IN THE ARAB TRADITION AS THEY ARE IN THE WESTERN TRADITION. AND THESE ARE QUALITIES EMBODIED IN THE TWO AND A HALF MILLION AMERICANS OF ARAB DESCENT -- WITH ORIGINS FROM MOROCCO TO THE ARABIAN PENINSULA. JUST LIKE SO MANY WHO COME TO AMERICA, ARAB IMMIGRANTS PURSUED NEW BEGINNINGS. THEY CAME IN SEARCH OF FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND EQUALITY. UNFORTUNATELY, TODAY SOME ARAB-AMERICANS ARE THE VICTIMS OF APPALLING ACTS OF HATRED.

THERE IS A SAD IRONY THAT WHILE OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS FIGHT AGGRESSION OVERSEAS, A FEW HATE-MONGERS HERE AT HOME ARE PERPETRATING THEIR OWN BRAND OF COWARDLY AGGRESSION. DEATH THREATS, PHYSICAL ATTACKS, VANDALISM, RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE, AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ARAB-AMERICANS MUST END. \\\

HATE CRIMES HAVE NO PLACE IN A FREE SOCIETY AND WE WILL NOT STAND FOR THEM. \\\

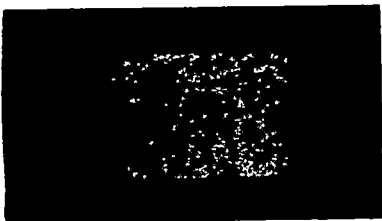
I HAVE BEEN APPALLED BY REPORTS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ARAB-AMERICANS. I CONDEMN SUCH ACTS AND WILL CONTINUE TO CONDEMN THEM.

**THIS ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTED ENACTMENT OF THE HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION BECAUSE BIGOTRY AND HATE STILL EXIST IN THIS COUNTRY. HATE BREEDS VIOLENCE, THREATENING THE SECURITY OF OUR ENTIRE SOCIETY. AS I SAID WHEN I SIGNED THE BILL: ALL AMERICANS MUST JOIN TOGETHER TO RID OUR COMMUNITIES OF THE POISON OF PREJUDICE, BIAS AND DISCRIMINATION. **

**AMERICA IS HOME TO MILLIONS OF MUSLIMS -- WHO ARE FREE TO LIVE, WORK AND WORSHIP IN ACCORD WITH THE TRADITIONS AND TEACHINGS OF ISLAM. SIMILARLY, AMERICA IS ALSO HOME TO MILLIONS OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS, ALSO FREE TO LIVE WORK AND WORSHIP. SURELY THE MULTINATIONAL TROOPS -- MEN AND WOMEN OF EVERY RELIGION AND COLOR -- WHO ARE NOW ON DUTY IN THE GLARE OF THE DESERT SUN, ARE AN EXAMPLE TO US HERE. THEY PROVE THAT A CRISIS ABROAD IS NO EXCUSE FOR DISCRIMINATION AT HOME. **

AS WE REFLECT ON OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT IN THE
GULF, WE SHOULD REMEMBER AN OLD ARAB PROVERB: "GOD IS
WITH THOSE WHO PERSEVERE." WITH GOD'S HELP, WE SHALL
PERSEVERE -- AND WE SHALL PREVAIL. \\\

#



Arab-American Speech -

Justice is still concerned that the tone suggests this is happening in great numbers.

Suggested language - "I won't permit events in the Middle East to allow violent crimes, vandalism + discrimination to happen."

(Take out the "must end" section + say the Pres won't allow it to happen.)

Please let me know. Thanks.

Holly W.

X6630



AMERICAN-ARAB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSIONTO: Ms. Jennifer Grossman, Research DepartmentCOMPANY: The White HouseFACSIMILE NUMBER: 456-6218FROM: Albert MokhiberAMERICAN-ARAB ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE (ADC)FACSIMILE NUMBER: (202) 244-3196DATE: September 18, 1990TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 8SUBJECT OF FAX: Information requested.

***** If you do not receive the total number of pages listed above, please notify the sender in our office at (202) 244-2990.



American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee

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Suite 500
Washington, DC 20008
(202) 244-2990
Telex: 856419 (ADC WSHDC)
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Alex Odeh (1944-1985)

James Abourezk, Chairman

Abdoun Jabara, President

Barbara Shahin Battoul, Executive Director
National Advisory Committee (Partial List)

Rep. John Conyers (D-MI)
Rep. George Crockett (D-MI)
Rep. Walter Fauntroy (D-DC)
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Rep. Nick Joe Rahall (D-WV)

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Archbishop Michael Shaheen

Hisham Sharabi

Archbishop Joseph Tawil

Abdulla Warrayat

Stephen P. Yokich

Joe Yust

September 18, 1990

Ms. Jennifer Grossman
Research Department
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Grossman:

Per your request this morning, I have set forth below information to be considered for use in President Bush's speech this Friday concerning Arab-Americans.

1. ADC has been keeping a log of hate crimes directed at Arab Americans since the political assassination of our West Coast Regional Director, Alex Odeh, in 1985. This case remains a "top priority" investigation of the FBI which has deemed Alex's death an act of terrorism.

Our record keeping has indicated that a direct correlation exists between major crises in the Middle East and acts of violence and harassment against Arab-Americans. This backlash factor has most recently manifested itself in numerous reports of such hate crimes since the recent Gulf crisis. (See attached log.)

RECOMMENDATION: The ADC respectfully calls upon President Bush to publically condemn the rash of hate crimes directed at Arab-Americans. Further, we seek an assurance by the President that every effort will be made to arrest those individuals responsible for such heinous acts.

2. Many Kuwaiti, Iraqi and third country Arab nationals residing in Kuwait and Iraq have been stranded in the United States since the crisis began in August. Most of these individuals came for a short duration during their summer vacation.

RECOMMENDATION: As in the case of the Chinese students last year these individuals should be afforded, by Executive Order, deferred departure status allowing them to remain legally in the United States with work authorization until the current crisis is resolved.

Ms. Jennifer Grossman
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ARAB-AMERICAN
SERVING
IN GULF

3. Arab-Americans have served this country's military for over one hundred years with honor and distinction. One example of an Arab-American serviceman currently serving our nation in the Gulf is Michael Shahadey, a U.S. Army paratrooper. *

4. Arab-Americans have also contributed significantly to our nation in other prominent areas including the following:

- A. John Sununu, White House Chief of Staff
- B. George Mitchell, U.S. Senate Majority Leader
- C. Congressman Nick J. Rahall, III, W. Virginia
- D. Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar, Ohio
- E. Former Senator James Abourezk, South Dakota
- F. Former Senator James Abdnor, South Dakota
- G. Former Governor Victor Atiyeh, Oregon
- H. Danny Thomas, Entertainer and founder of St. Jude's Childrens Hospital
- I. Helen Thomas, Dean of the White House Press Corps
- J. Philip Habib, Special Presidential Envoy
- K. Najeeb Halaby, Former Presidential Advisor
- L. Dr. Michail De Bakey, Pioneer Heart Surgeon
- M. Selwa Roosevelt, Former White House Chief of Protocol
- N. Col. James Jabara, USAF America's First Jet Ace Pilot
- O. Ralph Nader, Consumer Advocate
- P. Khalil Gibran, Author of The Prophet

Ms. Jennifer Grossman
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- Q. Entertainers, Casey Kasem, Marlo Thomas, F. Murray Abraham, Tiffany, Paul Anka, Paula Abdul and Rosalind Elias.
- R. Sports figures; Joe Robbie, late owner of Miami Dolphins, Jim Herrick, UCLA basketball coach, Doug Flutie, NFL quarterback, Bobby Rahal, national race car champion, Ronnie Seikaly, NBA star, Jeff George, NFL quarterback.

I hope that this information will serve your immediate needs and I remain available for further consultation and assistance.

Most sincerely,



Albert Mokhiber
President

Attachment

1990 ANTI-ARAB DISCRIMINATION AND HATE CRIMES LOG

August 1990 - Present

08/08/90 - Los Angeles, CA ADC office received a threatening and highly offensive message on the phone machine.

08/10/90 - Detroit, MI Received report that WDFX radio asked listeners to call in with "dirty Iraqi jokes."

08/14/90 - San Francisco, CA ADC activist received a letter threatening his life and his children's due to a newspaper interview he gave to a local paper on the Iraq-Kuwait conflict.

08/14/90 - Santa Ana, CA Former Arab-American mayoral candidate walked a visitor to his car about midnight and found a Star of David spray-painted on the car.

08/15/90 - Dearborn, MI Arab-American newspaper reporter received a phone message from a male caller stating "I want to leave a message for Mr. _____, I will kill you if the Americans in Kuwait are hurt." The FBI was contacted and is investigating the case.

08/15/90 - Gaithersburg, MD Iranian-American family mistaken as Arabs reported that they were attacked and beaten by members of a road crew. The father received a fractured skull and is partially paralyzed. One of the attackers was quoted as saying. "I want to kill these foreigners to teach them a lesson about complaining in our country."

08/90 - Fort Wayne, IN Member called to report that CNN ran a story about two men dressed as Arabs sitting above a tank of water labeled "Dunk an Arab." The object of the game was to hit a bulls eye with balls thereby dropping the "Arab" villain into the water tank.

08/19/90 - Savannah, GA ADC member reported that a radio broadcast on WIVX-FM 95 aired an Islamic "call to prayer" and referred to it as a "stupid sound." The disc jockey announced that this was "towelhead weekend" (a derogatory reference to traditional Arab headdress). Listeners were told that when you hear this sound (the call to prayer) "call in and win 1 quart of oil and 95 gallons of gas and a towel."

08/90 - Washington, DC ADC member reported that Bruce Williams, a nationally syndicated radio talk show host responded to a caller's query about the danger of chemical warfare by saying, "Well we must always consider that some crazy Arab might."

08/22/90 - Washington, DC ADC National Office sent letter to FBI Director William Sessions informing him of rise in anti-Arab hate crimes and requesting directive be sent to all FBI field offices on the issue and alerting them to possible acts of violence by various terrorist and hate groups.

08/22/90 - Albuquerque, NM Two Arab-Americans who were interviewed by a local newspaper received threatening notes and a rash of abusive and threatening calls numbering nearly 100. Reports were made to the police and the FBI. Reporter indicated that as a result many other Arab-Americans were afraid to talk or give their names to the media.

08/22/90 - Columbus, OH Arab-American received call on answering machine with vile language cautioning him to watch over his shoulder as he was going to be the next hostage. Copy of tape was given to law enforcement officials for investigation.

08/22/90 Orange County, CA Arab manager of gas station received a call from a woman who called him, erroneously, an Iraqi and said she would burn down his place.

08/22/90 - Chicago, IL A young Palestinian was struck in a market and told to go back to Iraq.

08/23/90 - An ADC member reported that a national news show ran a story about commercial exploitation of the current crisis with anti-Arab hysteria tactics. One example was a T-shirt saying "Iraqnophobia" with a spider web motif and spiders with Saddam Hussein faces and red berets. The reference is to the current horror film "Arachnophobia."

08/23/90 - Washington, DC A young man was seen wearing a T-shirt with a U.S. Marine pointing his rifle at an Arab laying at his feet with a caption "How much is the oil now."

8/23/90 Charlestown, MA Arab-American tenant and landlord both received anonymous letters shortly after the tenant moved into a new apartment threatening to burn the building down if he did not move. The writer made reference to the tenant being an Arab and the writer's son was in the U.S. Army "fighting the Saudis" (sic).

08/23/90 - Cleveland, OH Cleveland Plain Dealer reported that an Arab-American family filed a lawsuit alleging that their neighbors harassed and threatened them because of their national origin. The incidents included the throwing of stink bombs in their yard at 1:30 a.m., "turfig" the family's lawn and a steady diet of threats and racial epithets.

8/23/90 - Arlington, VA ADC member reported that a nationally syndicated talk show host from New York City played a song to the tune of the Beach Boys "Ba-ba-baran," dubbed "Bomb-Bomb Iraq," which was full of anti-Arab stereotypes and racism.

08/24/90 - New York, NY Gang of ten young men approached a male rider in the New York subway on Second Avenue about 3:00 a.m. and asked in a threatening fashion if he was an Arab. The victim was then attacked and beaten, causing him to run off the train at the next stop. He was followed by the gang. The conductor called the police after being informed by witnesses on the train.

08/24/90 - Charlestown, MA The Boston Globe reported that an Arab-American was threatened and taunted by neighbors and told to

move out of his residence of "he will die." The landlord was also threatened if she did not "kick that Arab out." The Arab-American moved out in 24 hours and now floats from one friend's house to another. Other Arabs in Boston have reported incidents of harassment and anti-Arab statements. The Globe also noted that a Palestinian in New Hampshire reported that his son was taunted and called a "terrorist" by other children.

08/27/90 - Hartford, CT Gasoline stations were reported to be selling T-shirts with "Attack Iraq" slogans, causing Arab-Americans to fear rising anti-Arab sentiment.

08/28/90 - Los Angeles, CA The ADC regional office received two calls from different individuals who used profane language and told the staff person to "go back home."

08/28/90 - Orange County, CA An ADC member reported that a visitor to his home found his car painted with a Star of David.

08/30/90 - Washington, DC Bomb threat called into the National Office of ADC by a man claiming, "There is a bomb in your building...37 minutes."

08/30/90 - Dallas, TX The Dallas Observer reported that the Catholic Charities Immigration Counseling Services (when mistaken for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service) received numerous calls asking for the deportation of Arab-Americans. The Dallas ADC chapter reported that discriminatory attitudes are common among radio DJ's who ridicule Arab dress on the air and play songs that promote the idea of launching a military attack on Iraq.

08/31/90 - Detroit, MA An ADC member reported that the Fox Broadcasting Network show "Glory Days" portrayed a rapist called "Ahmed," who is the son of an Arab diplomat. The reason for the rape is that in Ahmed's country men are taught to hate women and have little respect for them. Ahmed kills himself for disgracing his family. It is made clear that disgracing one's family is considered much more of a crime than rape.

09/2/90 - Houston, TX Arab-American talk show host received package which contained a fake bomb of cigars in cases wired to a small clock. A note was attached saying, "_____ have a good cigar and don't be late for the show." The bomb squad evacuated the building and determined it to be a threatening hoax.

09/04/90 - Augusta, GA The President of an Islamic Society reported that he received a call threatening his life if he did not stop his public statements.

09/06/90 - Kansas City, MO Politically active Palestinian family reported that two shots were fired at their car from a .22 caliber weapon. The family had previously received repeated phone calls threatening the wife with kidnapping. She was told to be careful when she opened her door. For three nights a car with two men in it was parked across the street from their home. The family had previously won a lawsuit imposing a \$10,000 fine on Rabbi Meir

Kahane, founder of the Jewish Defense League, which has been described by the FBI as a "terrorist organization."

09/07/90 - Providence, RI An ADC member reported that radio station WHJY encouraged its listeners to write to the U.S. Armed Forces in "Operation Desert Shield" instead of "jumping up and down and hitting yourself on the head like people in that area are known to do." The comment was also made: "Three or four times a day, I get down on my knees and bow to Alpert's furniture store." On calling the radio station the ADC member found the people there "very patronizing."

09/08/90 - Patterson, NJ After receiving death threats, an Arab businessman withdrew his offer to pay \$500 to anyone who named their newborn child "Saddam." The death threats included a copy of a news story about his \$500 offer with a red X across his picture and the word "DEAD" in bold red letters.

09/9/90 - Washington, DC ADC member reported that TV channel 20 ran a "Johnny Quest" cartoon which depicted Arabs as nasty and devious and Egypt as a "cruel country."

09/10/90 - Sterling, VA ADC member reported that a syndicated radio show hosted by DJ Howard Stern and his guest Pat Cooper featured anti-Arab comments, such as "Arabs cover their women because they are so horny they can't control themselves." and "Arabs are dogs, so treat them as such. Take a newspaper and hit them on the head when they misbehave."

09/10/90 - Pennsylvania Arab-American who made TV comment about Gulf crisis reported 6-7 harassing calls. Callers insulted Arabs and stated "We will get you." and "Go back to your country." Today a stone was thrown through his window.

09/12/90 - Received news report that at least 100 workers at the China Lake Naval Weapons Center bought a T-shirt portraying U.S. war planes attacking an Arab riding a camel and armed with a whip. The T-shirt slogan read, "I'd fly 7,000 miles to smoke a camel." "Smoke" is military jargon meaning to destroy.

09/13/90 - New Brunswick, NJ, Home News reported that many Arab Americans have begun concealing their ethnicity and religion. One student decided not to tell her professors that she is an Arab raised in Kuwait. "I tell them I am Greek...because they are really nasty if they know you're Palestinian and a Muslim...I wish I could say I'm Palestinian but I feel I can't even write an essay. I can't write what I want to write. I can't really express myself the way I want." An Arab American woman reported that a man in a pickup truck yelled at her, "Nice hairdo! It's not Halloween anymore!" referring to her Islamic headcovering.

TELEFAX

Company Name:

Attention:

Date:

Fax Number:

From: Peter J. Tanous

Bank Audi U.S.A. Fax Number is 212-956-7958

No. of pages including this page: 3



American Task Force for Lebanon

2033 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 • Washington, D.C. 20036-3399 • 202-223-8333 • Fax: 202 785 0

Peter J. Tanous, Chairman

Tanya Rahall, Executive Dir.

September 18, 1990

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear John:

In consideration of the meeting the President is having with Arab-Americans on Friday, may I respectfully suggest the following as very important points:

1. Discrimination against Arab-Americans in the United States is a minor issue that has been blown out of proportion, principally by A.D.C. The few isolated instances that were reported are just that: isolated instances. Hence this issue should not be the focal point of the President's remarks lest the matter be blown totally out of proportion.
2. I believe the key point the President can make which would greatly satisfy the Arab-American community and enhance our grassroots support in the Arab world is this: the United States has been criticized over the years for what Arabs view as an inconsistent application of U.S. principles in the Middle East. If the President would simply reaffirm existing United States policy concerning our opposition to Israeli occupation and annexation of neighboring territories, and our policy for a Lebanon free of all foreign forces, as well as our historic support for U.N. resolutions 242 and 338, this will play well with the Arab-American audience and could lead to increased Arab popular support of United States action in the Middle East.

A restatement of our existing policies covering all facets of our diplomatic position will demonstrate the balance in our



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policy and will increase on-the-ground, grassroots support in the Arab world for the U.S. military presence in the gulf.

I hope this is useful.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter J. Tanous", written over a horizontal line.

Peter J. Tanous

P.S. As you know, the Task Force recently polled our membership in 27 states. Based on returns so far, over 90% support the President's decision to send troops to the Middle East.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

00 SEP 21 10:08

September 21, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON L.
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*
SUBJECT: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are draft remarks for the drop-by Arab-American briefing, scheduled for Monday, September 24, at 3:10 p.m. in Room 450 of the E.O.B. You will be addressing approximately 200 Arab-Americans from around the country.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 to 7 minutes/speechcards) restate our objectives in the Persian Gulf, touch on the international response to the crisis, and strongly condemn bigotry and hate-violence against Arab-Americans.

OK
with minor changes

Peter Tanakas
Seasons -

Grant/Grossman
September 21, 1990
8:00 p.m.
A:ARAB

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
3:10 P.M.**

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that you have just been briefed on the current situation in the Persian Gulf, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, culture, or imperialist ambitions -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world. It is about principle.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Saddam Hussein is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing is gaining acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

We must also resist Saddam Hussein's attempts to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait. **We will not be distracted.** Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process.

Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

→ Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling acts of hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, a few hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\\ *I have been appalled by reports of discrimination against Arab-Americans. I condemn such acts and will continue to work to ensure*
 This Administration supported enactment of the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must

join together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely the multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are now on duty in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, we should remember an old Arab proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall prevail. \\

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 22, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT 

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks for Arab-American
Groups

Attached at Tab A is the NSC's marked up version of the draft remarks for the President's meeting with Arab-American groups on Monday, September 24. One other thought that should be included is that much of the prejudice directed against Arab-Americans and Arabs generally comes from ignorance, disinformation, and stereotyped images (i.e., Arabs are terrorists or oil sheikhs). We need to overcome this through better communications and by building bridges with Arab-Americans like these groups and with Arabs working and studying in the United States.

Attachment
Tab A Draft Presidential Remarks

cc: Jim Cicconi

TIME STAMP

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

URGENT

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER:

7480

ACTION OFFICER:

HAASS

DUE: 9:00 A.M., 21 SEP 90

☐ Prepare Memo For Scowcroft/Gates☐ Appropriate Action☐ Prepare Memo For Cicconi☐ Prepare Memo for Sittmann☒ Prepare Memo

SCOWCROFT

to

Winston w/ cc: Cicconi?

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

PHONE* to action officer at ext. 6900

FYI

☐ Barth
☐ Basora
☐ Beers
☐ Blackwill
☐ Broome
☐ Burns
☐ Chamberlin
☒ Charles
☐ Coulson
☐ Davis
☐ Deal
☒ Dorminey
☐ Dyke
☐ Fry
☐ Gaughan
☐ Gordon
☐ Haass
☐ Hayden
☐ Hutchings
☐ Jackson

FYI

☐ Johnson
☐ Kaeuper
☐ Kanter
☐ Kitchen
☐ LaMagna
☐ Lampley
☐ Levin
☐ Lundsager
☐ Mandel
☐ Melby
☐ Menan
☐ Merchant
☐ Miller
☐ Needels
☐ O'Leary
☐ Ordway
☐ Paal
☐ Pacelli
☐ Pilling
☒ Popadiuk

FYI

☐ Pryce
☐ Rademaker
☐ Rice
☐ Rodman
☒ Rostow
☐ Salvetti
☐ Tilley
☐ Tobey
☐ Van Eron
☐ Watson
☒ Welch
☐ Whitley
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☐ Working
☐ Zelikow
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INFORMATION

☒

Sittmann

☒

Deputy Exec. Sec.

☒

Exec. Sec. Desk

☒

Scowcroft (advance)

☒

Gates (advance)

☒

Secretariat

COMMENTS

CRW#:

Logged By 24.

Return to Secretariat

7480

Document No. 176049

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/20/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/21/90 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CICCONI	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	PINKERTON	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Friday, September 21, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

RECEIVED

90 SEP 20 P 2 : 45

Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m. 90 SEP 20 AM 11:47
A:ARAB

BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?

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((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until we reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that ~~Undersecretary Wolfowitz~~ ^{you} has ~~just~~ ^{ve} ~~briefed you~~ ^{been} on the current situation in the ~~Middle East~~ ^{Persian Gulf}, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, ~~or~~ ^{or imperialist ambitions} culture -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world. *It is about principle.*

Insert at * on page 2

We must also resist ^{Iraqi} ~~Saddam Hussein's~~ attempt to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait, ~~and~~ ^{we} will not be distracted. Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process. Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing ^{is} ~~has~~ ^{ing} gained acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- ^{making} ~~contributing~~ ^{ons} troops and supplies, ^{to} ~~and~~ economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since ~~Saddam~~ ^{Iraq's} Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands ^{virtually} alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than ^{seven} ~~[eight]~~ times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ^{engineered} ~~ordered~~ by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied

~~Now will Saddam Hussein's actions distract us from the need to pursue the peace process between Arabs and Israelis. Our position has been~~

use resolutions 242 and 338. These resolutions most involve the Arab world, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for Palestinians.

^ ranging from

note: may be 8 by Monday.

Insert *

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Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling discrimination and hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight ^{alongside Arabs against} aggression ^{overseas,} hate-mongers ^{directed at other Arabs} here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. The current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering. **Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. **

**Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. **

[I ask all Americans to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line.] Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All legitimate allegations reported **will be investigated** by the FBI. If substantiated, they **will be prosecuted** to the fullest extent of the law.]

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#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

122
Mark Davis

20 SEP 21 12:08

September 21, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON L.
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*
SUBJECT: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

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OK

with minor changes

S

Grant/Grossman
September 21, 1990
8:00 p.m.
A:ARAB

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#

FAX to James Cicconi at the White
CAMP DAVID
~~House~~

Jim Cicconi,

2930-
Spec. Deliv.

The President requests you make changes
as he has indicated

Sean Byrne

Grace Mistalli
from DoJ called
re: p. 3 ¶. 3

¶ not factually correct.
People should report
to local police + FBI
if allegations are to be
investigated. Suggests
deleting Hate Crimes
Hotline because it does
not lead to investigation.
(For conciliation purposes
only.)

✓

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Drop-By Arab-American Briefing

✓ We have noted our comments on pages three and four of the attached draft. We recommend that the third sentence of the first full paragraph on page three be deleted. Stating that "the current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering" sounds strange given what else the current Iraqi situation means - 160,000 American young men and women at risk, a cost of billions of dollars, the post cold war balance, etc. The paragraph communicates a strong message without this sentence and would be improved if the sentence were simply deleted.

✓ In the second sentence of the third full paragraph on page three, citing "religion, race, or ethnicity" excludes other types of hate crimes. We suggest replacing this incomplete list with a general term which describes all types of hate crimes.

If you have any questions or we can help in any other way, please let me know.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUMDATE: 9/20/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/21/90 10:00 AMSUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CICCONI	☐	☒	<u>ROGERS</u>	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	<u>WINSTON</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>PINKERTON</u>	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐

REMARKS:

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 Ext. 2702

Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m. '90 SEP 20 AM 11:47
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7 NSC
Comments

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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We must also resist Saddam Hussein's attempts to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait. **We will not be distracted.** Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process.

Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling act of hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, a few hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\

This Administration supported enactment of the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must

join together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely the multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are now on duty in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, we should remember an old Arab proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall prevail. \\

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 09/22/90ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP BY ARAB AMERICAN BRIEFING
(09/21 8:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☐	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☒	PORTER	☐	☒
DARMAN	☐	☒	ROGICH	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CICCONI	☐	☒	<u>ROGERS</u>	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☐	☒	<u>PINKERTON</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>WINSTON</u>	☐	☒
GRAY	☐	☒	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☐	☒	<u> </u>	☐	☐

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

30 SEP 21 13:08

September 21, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*
SUBJECT: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are draft remarks for the drop-by Arab-American briefing, scheduled for Monday, September 24, at 3:10 p.m. in Room 450 of the E.O.B. You will be addressing approximately 200 Arab-Americans from around the country.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 to 7 minutes/speechcards) restate our objectives in the Persian Gulf, touch on the international response to the crisis, and strongly condemn bigotry and hate-violence against Arab-Americans.

Grant/Grossman
September 21, 1990
8:00 p.m.
A:ARAB

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
3:10 P.M.**

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that you have just been briefed on the current situation in the Persian Gulf, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, culture, or imperialist ambitions -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world. It is about principle.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Saddam Hussein is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing is gaining acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

We must also resist Saddam Hussein's attempts to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait. We will not be distracted. Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process.

Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling act of hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, a few hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\\

This Administration supported enactment of the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must

join together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely the multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are now on duty in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, we should remember an old Arab proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall prevail. \\

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/20/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/21/90 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CICCONI	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	PINKERTON	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Friday, September 21, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m. 90 SEP 20 AM 11:47
A:ARAB

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?**

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until we reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that Undersecretary Wolfowitz has just briefed you on the current situation in the Middle East, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, or culture -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

→ The extent of world cooperation in condemning ^{Saddam Hussein} ~~Iraq~~ is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing has gained acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, ^{STET} ~~Iraq~~ stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

NSC insert * →

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied

in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Council Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling ^{acts of} discrimination and [?] hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, ^{a few} hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. *Delede?* *Porter* ~~The current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering.~~ Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\\

→ I ask all Americans to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line. Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All legitimate allegations reported will be investigated by the FBI. If substantiated, they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

→ This Administration ^{supported} ~~enacted~~ ^{ment of} the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must join

together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship.

→ Surely ~~our~~ ^{the} multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are ~~fighting for justice~~ ^{how on duty} in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\\

→ As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, ~~I am~~ ^{we should} ~~reminded of~~ ^{remember} an old Arabian proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall

→ ~~overcome.~~ prevail.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

7490

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks for Arab-American
Groups

Attached at Tab A is the NSC's marked up version of the draft remarks for the President's meeting with Arab-American groups on Monday, September 24. One other thought that should be included is that much of the prejudice directed against Arab-Americans and Arabs generally comes from ignorance, disinformation, and stereotyped images (i.e., Arabs are terrorists or oil sheikhs). We need to overcome this through better communications and by building bridges with Arab-Americans like these groups and with Arabs working and studying in the United States.

Attachment

Tab A Draft Presidential Remarks

cc: Jim Cicconi

Grant/Grossman

September 20, 1990

11:00 a.m.

A:ARAB

90 SEP 20 AM 11:47

BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until we reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that ~~Undersecretary Wolfowitz~~ ^{you} ~~has~~ ^{ve} just ~~briefed you~~ ^{been} on the current situation in the ~~Middle East~~ ^{Persian Gulf}, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, ~~or~~ ^{or imperialist ambitions} culture -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world. ~~It is about principle.~~

Insert at * on page -

We must also resist Saddam Hussein's attempt to link the Iraqi invasion with other regional conflicts. This is merely an effort to create additional pretexts so that he can stay in Kuwait, ~~and~~ we will not be distracted. Once the Gulf crisis is on its way to resolution, we will turn again to the peace process. Our position is clear and consistent, calling for negotiations based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. These negotiations must involve territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel, and legitimate political rights for the Palestinians.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

✓ The extent of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing ^{is} ~~has~~ gained ^{my} acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- ^{making} contributing ^{one} troops and supplies, ^{to} and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands ^{virtually} alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than ^{Seven} [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

Insert ✕ As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ^{engineered} ~~ordered~~ by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied

~~Now with Saddam Hussein's actions and threats to us
we need to pursue this plan
between Arabs and Israelis. Our position has been~~

UNSC Resolution 242 and 243. We are not alone in our mission for peace, security and stability in the Middle East. We are joined by many other nations in our common goal of a just and lasting peace in the region.

X ranging from
A
by
Indy.

in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling discrimination and hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. The current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. \\\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\\

[I ask all Americans to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line.] Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All legitimate allegations reported will be investigated by the FBI. If substantiated, they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.]

This Administration enacted the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must join

together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely our multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are fighting for justice in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\



As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, I am reminded of an old Arabs proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall overcome.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: STEPHEN RADEMAKER *SR*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Drop-by Arab-American Briefing

Pursuant to Jim Cicconi's request, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced matter. We have no legal objection to the draft remarks, subject to the following changes:

- chriss?*
1. Page 3, first full paragraph, second line, delete "discrimination and" and insert in its place "acts of". This change avoids a presidential assertion concerning discrimination that could be used against us in the current negotiations over the civil rights bill.
 - ✓ 2. Page 3, third full paragraph, delete the third and fourth sentences. These sentences are misleading because we understand that the Justice Department refers some hate crimes reports to local authorities rather than the FBI for investigation. Further, because of resource constraints and the need to prioritize cases, the President cannot guarantee that all cases will be investigated and prosecuted, particularly those referred to local authorities. The remarks seem complete without these two sentences, but if it is considered necessary to say something about prosecution of hate crimes, we suggest inserting "The Attorney General and I are committed to vigorous enforcement of the law in this area."
 - ✓ 3. Page 3, fourth full paragraph, delete the word "enacted" and insert in its place "supported enactment of".

As a further comment, we question whether the problem of hate crimes involving Arab-Americans is sufficiently serious to deserve as much attention as it receives in the remarks. If such crimes are not a serious and growing problem, it would appear to play into Saddam Hussein's hands for the President to exaggerate the situation.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUMDATE: 9/20/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/21/90 10:00 AMSUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CICCONI	☐	☒	<u>ROGERS</u>	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☐	<u>WINSTON</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>PINKERTON</u>	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
HOLIDAY →	☒	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Friday, September 21, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

See Comments. Thanks.

Holly Williamson

9-21-90

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: HOLLY WILLIAMSON *HW*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Arab-American briefing

Please see the comments on the attached draft, noting Justice's comments in particular. They felt deletion of most of page 3 and the one sentence on page 4 was necessary because there is no evidence or back-up for it. There may be some incidence of violence to the Arab-American community, but the text suggests a large wave of violence, which is not accurate. Justice's Civil Rights Division shows no investigations at this point -- not that there couldn't be in the future -- but why suggest this when it is not happening at this time? Justice suggested instead to expand the discussion of Christians, American-Jews et al. all working together. //

Cabinet Affairs agrees with Justice's comments.

Attachment

Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m. '90 SEP 20 AM 11:47
A:ARAB

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?**

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until we reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that Undersecretary Wolfowitz has just briefed you on the current situation in the Middle East, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, or culture -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing has gained acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied

Justice ↓

in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

✓
(DOJ)
see
memo.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling discrimination and hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. The current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering. **Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end.** \\\

Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. \\\

I ask all Americans to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line. Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All legitimate allegations reported **will be investigated** by the FBI. If substantiated, **they will be prosecuted** to the fullest extent of the law.

This Administration enacted the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: **All Americans must join**

✓
(DOJ) together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \ \]

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely our multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are fighting for justice in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. [They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home.]

✓
(DOJ)

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, I am reminded of an old Arabian proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall overcome. prevail.

✓
(Treasury)

#

M.K.

Grant/Grossman
September 18, 1990
4:00 p.m.
A:ARAB

BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?

Welcome to the White House, and it's a pleasure to see so many of our friends here today.

I am honored that you could make it here today, to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home -- as a country and as individuals.

You more than most understand
~~Let me begin with~~ what is at stake in the Persian Gulf -- our ideals as a nation, and our *determination* ~~ability~~ to stand up to aggressors in the post-Cold War era. Our objectives remain clear:

Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

~~The level~~ *extent* of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented. Since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than 20 countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions, ~~no less than six times~~. United against

aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. Love of justice, respect and dignity: these are principles deeply embedded in the Arab tradition, as they are in the Western tradition. ~~There is no reason that we must live in animosity either at home or abroad.~~

~~Internationally,~~ ^{So} we will continue our search for peace in the Middle East -- an aspiration that has eluded man for ~~so many~~ ^{so many} centuries. ~~longer than this nation has been alive.~~ ~~Today,~~ ^{It's here at home} two and ~~it~~ ^{is} a half million Americans have come to the United States from ~~important~~ ^{important} nations that ~~have been drawn and redrawn on the maps~~ ^{now at the center of a turbulent conflict} -- Lebanon, ~~that~~ ^{to remind} Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Yemen and Iraq, to name a few. ~~And while your Arab homelands share a sense of brotherhood, a pursuit of new beginnings, they come in search of freedom and~~ ^{Just like so many others who came to America, there was} they often do not share one voice. But neither do all Americans. ^{justice and equal rights under the law.}

~~Let there be no mistake~~ ^{must} Here at home, ~~there is one thing we all agree on: the~~ ^{So today} violence against Arab-Americans must stop. There is a sad irony

~~that while our soldiers fight aggression, hate-mongers are would deny them to certain of our citizens~~ ^{for these same ideals abroad} ~~perpetrating aggression? The former are heroes, the latter are cowards.~~ ^{are} Sadly, the current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering against Arab-Americans. Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against private citizens -- ~~the Arab-bashing~~ ^{must end.} ~~For hate crimes have no place in a free society.~~

I ask each of you to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line (at 1-800-347-HATE.) Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All allegations reported will be investigated by the FBI. If substantiated, they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

This Administration enacted the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: All Americans must join together to rid our communities of the poison of prejudice, bias and discrimination. \\

America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely our multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are fighting for justice in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove to us that a ^{aggression} ~~crisis~~ abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, I am reminded of an old Arabian proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall overcome.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/20/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/21/90 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CARD	☐	☒	UNTERMEYER	☐	☐
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DEMAREST	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	PINKERTON	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Friday, September 21, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comment

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m. 90 SEP 20 AM 11:47
A:ARAB

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY ARAB-AMERICAN BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1990
TIME?**

Welcome to the White House. It's a pleasure to see so many distinguished leaders of the Arab-American community here today.

((I'm going to keep my remarks brief, because in the words of the famous Arab-American poet, Kahlil Gibran, "We shall never understand one another until we reduce the language to seven words." I've got a few more than seven words today, but please indulge me.))

I am honored that you could be with us to discuss the vital issue of our collective security, both abroad and at home. I understand that Undersecretary Wolfowitz has just briefed you on the current situation in the Middle East, an issue of critical concern to everyone in this room.

You more than most understand what is at stake. Our action in the Gulf is not about religion, nor is it about greed, or culture -- as Saddam Hussein would have the world believe. Our action in the Gulf is about our determination to stand up to aggression -- and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. It is about keeping our word and standing by our friends. It is about our vital national security interests and ensuring peace and stability in the world.

Our objectives remain clear: Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait completely, immediately and without condition. \\ Kuwait's legitimate government must be restored. \\ The security and stability of the Persian Gulf must be assured. \\ American citizens abroad must be protected. \\ And finally, a fifth objective can emerge from these: a new world order, in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can prosper and live together.

The extent of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented. The concept of burden-sharing has gained acceptance, with our allies and friends -- from Britain and France to Germany, Japan and the Arab world -- contributing troops and supplies, and economic assistance to those countries affected by the economic blockade. In fact, since Saddam Hussein's unprovoked attack on Kuwait, more than twenty countries have answered the call for help from the Gulf nations to provide defensive assistance against Iraq. Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community. The United Nations Security Council has strongly condemned Saddam Hussein's actions no less than [eight] times. United against aggression, the world community is working to resolve the crisis peacefully.

As I have said before, we have no quarrel with the people of Iraq. Our mission is to oppose the invasion ordered by Saddam Hussein. As you well know, love of justice, respect and dignity are principles as deeply embedded in the Arab tradition as they are in the Western tradition. And these are qualities embodied

in the two and a half million Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula. Just like so many who come to America, Arab immigrants pursued new beginnings. They came in search of freedom, justice and equality.

Unfortunately, today some Arab-Americans are the victims of appalling discrimination and hatred. There is a sad irony that while our brave soldiers fight aggression overseas, hate-mongers here at home are perpetrating their own brand of cowardly aggression. The current Iraqi situation has meant a disturbing increase in hate-mongering. **Death threats, physical attacks, vandalism, religious violence, and discrimination against Arab-Americans must end. **

**Hate crimes have no place in a free society and we will not stand for them. **

I ask all Americans to report any incidences of hate crimes to your local police, as well as the Justice Department Hate Crimes line. Any threats, violence or discrimination motivated by religion, race, or ethnicity will not be tolerated. All legitimate allegations reported **will be investigated** by the FBI. If substantiated, they **will be prosecuted** to the fullest extent of the law.

This Administration enacted the Hate Crimes legislation because bigotry and hate still exist in this country. Hate breeds violence, threatening the security of our entire society. As I said when I signed the bill: **All Americans must join**

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America is home to millions of Muslims -- who are free to live, work and worship in accord with the traditions and teachings of Islam. Similarly, America is also home to millions of Christians and Jews, also free to live work and worship. Surely our multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are fighting for justice in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here. They prove that a crisis abroad is no excuse for discrimination at home. \\

As we reflect on our ongoing commitment in the Gulf, I am reminded of an old Arabian proverb: "God is with those who persevere." With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall overcome.

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Grant/Grossman
September 20, 1990
11:00 a.m.
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FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>PINKERTON</u>	☒	☐
GRAY	☒	☐		☐	☐
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

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RESPONSE:

No Comment 9/21/90

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 20, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: JIM PINKERTON

SUBJECT: Arab-American Briefing

pg. 2, para. 2, line 1 "The extent of world cooperation in condemning Iraq is unprecedented."

We suggest replacing the word "Iraq" with "Saddam Hussein" in order to shift the emphasis toward the dictator and away from the Iraqi people. See also 2,2,9 below.

2,2,9 "Indeed, Iraq stands alone against the world community."

Again, we suggest replacing "Iraq" with "Saddam Hussein" or just "Saddam."

3,1,1 "...Americans of Arab descent -- with origins from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula."

It seems redundant, or at any rate unnecessary for this audience, to describe where the Arab world is located.

4,2,5 "Surely our multinational troops -- men and women of every religion and color -- who are fighting for justice in the glare of the desert sun, are an example to us here."

The word "multinational" suggests that we mean the troops of other countries as well as our own, in which case they are not really "our" troops. Either we should say "Surely our own troops..." or "Surely the multinational force there...."

Also, in this context, we should not use the word "fighting." We suggest "who are defending against and deterring aggression in the glare of the desert sun...."

(more)

5,3,3 "With God's help, we shall persevere -- and we shall overcome."

The "we shall overcome" is a bit too much. We suggest just omitting it and leaving the sentence with its reiteration of the excellent Arabian proverb. Also, a small point, shouldn't we say, instead of "I am reminded of an old Arabian proverb" -- which pretends that the President has known of this proverb before -- something like "We should remember the old Arabian proverb," which accomplishes the same thing without the pretense?

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