

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0001-07

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 14, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LOUIS I. LANG

SUBJECT: MAKES COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING
PEACE PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
MARY MCCLURE		ORG	89/06/14	MMMA	89/06/28
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

IG MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 28, 1989

Dear Representative Lang:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your thoughtful letter and kind words of encouragement for his role in promoting the peace process in the Middle East. Your expression of support for the Israeli-offered peace initiative is also greatly appreciated.

Your appeal for peace and a democratic solution to the turmoil that has troubled nations in the Middle East is an ideal that the President shares. Recent world events make these goals even more imperative.

Knowing your views and those of your constituents is extremely helpful, and we very much appreciate your taking the time to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary McClure".

Mary McClure
Special Assistant to the President
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Louis I. Lang
2076 Stratton Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

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LOUIS I. LANG

State Representative
1st District

May 26, 1989

Vice-Chair:

State Government Administration

Member:

Appropriations II
Judiciary I
Higher Education
Human Services
Cities and Villages
Select Committee on Children
Select Committee on Aging
Select Committee on Mental Health

M. McClure

President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

You are to be commended for the substantial role you have been playing and continue to play in promoting the peace process in the Middle East. I am confident that you will continue to push toward a lasting peace and I believe that I can state that my constituents are behind you and support you in all of these efforts.

However, after reviewing the words of Secretary of State Baker to the AIPAC Conference, I thought it appropriate to provide some of my comments to you.

The Government of Israel has proposed a peace initiative which, I believe, will help reach a comprehensive peace between Israel and all of its Arab neighbors. The proposal requires two stages. First, a test period to determine whether the general proposals for peace between the Israelis and Palestinians can be worked out. Second, a permanent arrangement between Israel, the Palestinians, and the rest of the Arab world.

The peace initiative contains four points which, I believe, will lead to a lasting peace:

- 1) A rededication to the Camp David accords is necessary to display to a doubting world that prior arrangements between some of the players will be adhered to and can be counted on.
- 2) We must solve the Palestinian refugee problem in the Gaza Strip by establishing a multi-national fund to provide them with housing and jobs. This will greatly help to eliminate terrorism in the area.
- 3) It is absolutely imperative that all of Israel's Arab neighbors terminate their official state of war with the State of Israel. Since 1948, there has been economic boycott, terrorism, and the like. This must cease before the peace process will make any sense at all.

4) Israel has offered to the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to conduct elections, allowing them to choose their own representatives to negotiate peace with Israel in stages.

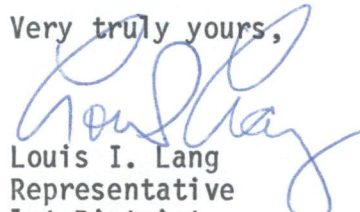
This proposal will give the Palestinians, themselves, a key role in outlining their own future with Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. It is, of course, imperative, that the United States be involved in any way necessary to promote this peace step.

These steps toward a peace initiative, have received the support of all political parties in Israel. We believe it is a substantial offer which will, for the first time, allow the opportunity to pursue the peace process directly.

I urge that the United States do all in its power to make sure that the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as other Arab neighbors in the Middle East respond in a positive way to the Israeli plan. It is important, therefore, that the perception not be given that the United States is demanding more concessions from Israel. I believe, strongly, that Israel has already gone a substantial distance in this peace initiative. Clearly, the State of Israel is the lone democratic ally of the United States in the Middle East. It is apparent that both sides cherish this strong relationship. Only through maintaining this can the United States help Israel to reach a strong and lasting peace with all of its Arab neighbors.

Thank you for your attention to this letter. I am strongly convinced that the United States of America can play the necessary role in helping Israel and all of its Arab neighbors through the peace plans outlined by the Government of Israel.

Very truly yours,



Louis I. Lang
Representative
1st District

LIL:cg
cc: James Baker,
Secretary of State
Senator Alan Dixon
Senator Paul Simon
Honorable Uri Bar-Ner,
Consul General of Israel