

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 4093				
Document ID: 0003655				
Stack: V	Row: 47	Section: 2	Shelf: 7	Position: 3

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0003655
RECEIVED: 31 MAY 00 15

TO: BERGER

FROM: PATTEN
SCHWARTZ

DOC DATE: 27 JUL 00
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CUBA CO
HUMAN RIGHTS

PERSONS: GONZALEZ, ELIAN

SUBJECT: REPLY TO REP MENENDEZ RE GONZALEZ CASE

ACTION: NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED DUE DATE: 12 JUN 00 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: PATTEN

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
SCHWARTZ

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSSWL

CLOSED BY: NSTCG

DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 0003655

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 PATTEN
002 BERGER
002 PATTEN
003 BERGER
003

Z 00053116 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
Z 00070512 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE
Z 00070818 FOR REDO
Z 00072716 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE
X 00073120 NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

THE WHITE HOUSE

7/7

PROOFED BY: DJ LOG # 3655
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS INT ARS
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG DJ A/O _____

Handwritten initials: DJ

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
GIRE			
JACOBSON	<u>1</u>	<u>DJ 7/5</u>	
POWELL			
BASH			
BRADTKE	<u>1</u>	<u>ME 7/6</u>	
RUDMAN	<u>2</u>	<u>ME 7/6</u>	
STEINBERG	<u>3</u>		
BERGER	<u>4</u>		
SITUATION ROOM			
WEST WING DESK	<u>5</u>	<u>DJ 7/8</u>	<u>X WLP</u>
RECORDS MGMT.			
<u>MULTI-PART</u>	<u>6</u>		<u>See JBS' Note</u>

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:

COMMENTS:

Handwritten: Cong Letter - Elian Gonzalez Case

100-441540-1461

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE yes

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE**

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 3655 ²⁰⁰⁰
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS INT ARS
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG 3 A/O 01

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
 GIRE	_____	_____	_____
HAAS	_____	_____	_____
POWELL	_____	_____	_____
BASH	<u>1</u>	<u>BA 7/27</u>	_____
BRADTKE	<u>2</u>	<u>BR 7/27</u>	_____
RUDMAN	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
KERRICK	_____	_____	_____
BERGER	_____	_____	_____
SITUATION ROOM	_____	_____	_____
WEST WING DESK	<u>4</u>	<u>SW 7/31</u>	<u>NFA</u>
RECORDS MGMT.	<u>5</u>	<u>File for the</u> <u>7/27 record</u> <u>7/31</u>	<u>N</u>

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

00 JUL 27 1998
CC:

COMMENTS:

Cong Letter - Elva Gonzalez

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE yes

Log # 3655

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Fm _____ To _____ Date _____

Mara, no matter what we say,
he won't be happy.

Suggest you send upstairs.

D

Fm _____ To _____ Date _____

Log # 3655

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Fm DD To RAO Date 7/27

This is another challenged letter - style
is not POTUS - Significant edits for your
review. ~~Be~~ Already I RE-DO SO
I DID NOT SEND BACK.

CHARRA: You need to
look at this one. It
is ridiculously late. Call.
We just declare it

Fm _____ To _____ Date _____

Chad.

AJR

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

THE WHITE HOUSE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

THE WHITE HOUSE

7/7

PROOFED BY: _____

LOG # 3655

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____

SYSTEM PRS INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____

DOCLOG 3 A/O 01

SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
GIRE		
HAAS		
POWELL		
BASH	1 8/7/27	
BRADTKE	2 7/27	
RUDMAN	3	
KERRICK		
BERGER		
SITUATION ROOM		
WEST WING DESK	4 8/7/31	NFA
RECORDS MGMT.	5 7/27	File for the

GIRE

HAAS

POWELL

BASH

BRADTKE

RUDMAN

KERRICK

BERGER

SITUATION ROOM

WEST WING DESK

RECORDS MGMT.

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

00 JUL 27 1994 4:45

CC:

COMMENTS:

Cong Letter - Elian Gonzalez

PROOFED BY: DT

LOG # 3655

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____

SYSTEM PRS INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____

DOCLOG DT A/O _____

SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
GIRE		
JACOBSON	1 7/15	
POWELL		
BASH	2 7/16	
BRADTKE	3	
RUDMAN	4	
STEINBERG		
BERGER		
SITUATION ROOM		
WEST WING DESK	5 7/18	WIP
RECORDS MGMT.	6	See JBS' Note

GIRE

JACOBSON

POWELL

BASH

BRADTKE

RUDMAN

STEINBERG

BERGER

SITUATION ROOM

WEST WING DESK

RECORDS MGMT.

MULTI-PART

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC:

COMMENTS:

Cong Letter - Elian Gonzalez Case

00 JUL 27 1994 5:00:15

Bls - #3655

I agree that more
offensive to send them
not to send at this
point - but let's just
doublecheck w/ Miles.

~m

Per Miles -

He agrees - we
should hit this one.

pls Return to
Multi/RECORDS
Times
Brooks

© Cross -

PLEASE print
out A clear draft
of ~~flag~~ for Bob.

-3655-

Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)

From: Bash, Brooks L. (EXSEC)
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2000 5:10 PM
To: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI); @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary
Subject: #3655--Ltr to Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Wendy,
Mara has decided (Miles concurred) that we should not/not repond to this letter. Please return the folder to records --
NFAR. Thanks, Brooks

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

July 27, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ESW*

FROM: WENDY PATTEN *WJ*

SUBJECT: Letter from Representative Menendez on Elian
Gonzalez Case

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response to a letter from Representative Robert Menendez on the Elian Gonzalez case.

We held this response while awaiting the decisions of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court in this case. These decisions, which were imminent, affected the content of the response. It was then returned for revisions.

The NSC received the incoming correspondence on May 31, 2000.

Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mary DeRosa, Dan Shapiro
(cleared via email)

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum.

Attachment

Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Response to Representative Menendez

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER
CHARLES M. BRAIN

SUBJECT: Congressional Correspondence on Elian Gonzalez
Case

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Representative Menendez urging you to intervene to end what he perceived as Castro's attempts to indoctrinate Elian Gonzalez on U.S. soil.

Background

In his letter, Representative Robert Menendez criticized the Administration for allegedly permitting the communist indoctrination of Elian Gonzalez through classes conducted by his Cuban teacher at the Gonzalez's temporary residence near Wye Plantation. He also contended that Cuban officials were dictating the family's daily activities.

Your response indicates that once INS determined that Juan Miguel Gonzalez was Elian's father and had a close relationship with his son, INS took steps to reunite Elian with his father. It was up to his father to make decisions about his son's education and with whom the family would meet. Our role at Wye was to provide security and to ensure that Elian did not leave U.S. jurisdiction. You express your hope that Elian and all Cuban children will soon live in a democratic Cuba and enjoy the benefits of an open economy.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached letter.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Representative Menendez
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

ROBERT MENENDEZ
13TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY
VICE CHAIR OF THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AND TRADE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3013

May 19, 2000

3655

- REPLY TO:
- ☐ 405 CANNON H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3013
(202) 225-7919
 - DISTRICT OFFICES:
 - ☐ 911 BERGEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306
(201) 222-2828
 - ☐ 654 AVENUE C
BAYONNE, NJ 07002
(201) 823-2900
 - ☐ 263 HOBART STREET
PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861
(732) 324-6212
 - ☐ 3109 BERGENLINE AVENUE
2ND FLOOR
UNION CITY, NJ 07087
(201) 558-0800

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



418152

Dear Mr. President:

The front page of yesterday's *Washington Times* carried a photo of six year-old Elián Gonzalez at his temporary residence near Wye Plantation, dressed in a Union of Communist Pioneer's uniform. I was appalled by this photo and others taken by the Cuban regime that appeared yesterday in *Granma*, Cuba's propaganda paper. A copy is enclosed.

It is incomprehensible that the U.S. would permit the communist indoctrination of Elián Gonzalez and other children on U.S. soil while under the supervision of the U.S. Marshall's Service.

The Union of Communist Pioneers is not like the Boy Scouts; participation in pioneers is mandatory, and the primary goal of the group is the indoctrination of young children in communist political and military ideology, and military readiness training. The "skills" children are taught include, how to hold bridges from enemy troops, find landmines, throw grenades through windows, and assemble a rifle while blindfolded.

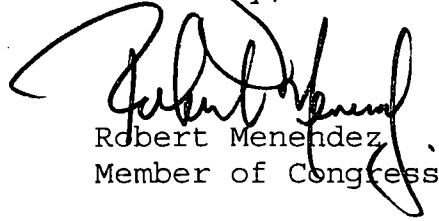
The intent behind housing Elián and his family at Wye Plantation was to give them time to spend together as a family - not to make them wards of the Cuban regime. Yet Cuban officials have been given seemingly unrestricted access to the family and are being allowed to dictate their daily activities.

The fact that the U.S. has facilitated Elián's Marxist-Leninist indoctrination by providing visas to Cuban "educators" is even more appalling.

Lastly, as we wait for the decision of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, I am disturbed by the possibility that should Elián be granted his right to apply for asylum, the past weeks of indoctrination are likely to influence his ability to respond truthfully in an interview with an asylum officer.

~~I urge you to immediately intervene to end Castro's attempt to carry out his malignant social experiment on U.S. soil and to ensure that Elián and the Gonzalez family are not further manipulated by the Castro regime.~~

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Madeleine Albright
Secretary of State

The Honorable Janet Reno
Attorney General of the United States

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 30, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT A. BRADTKE
NSC Executive Secretariat

FROM: KAY CASSTEVENS
Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Attached are copies of letters sent to the President by various Members of Congress. Since these letters address national security issues, we would appreciate your assistance in drafting the responses.

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions, please call Courtney Crouch at x67500.

The following is a brief description of the letters:

- 1) Sen. Kent Conrad (D-ND), Sen. Byron L. Dorgan (D-ND) and Rep. Earl Pomeroy (D-ND), recommending that any START III Treaty retains all 500 Minuteman III ICBMs and does not reduce the B-52 force;
- 2) Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH), recommending the President to address the issue of international parental abduction during his upcoming meeting with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder;
- 3) Sen. Phil Gramm (R-TX), recommending the President to address the issue of Mexico's water management plan in the Rio Grande watershed during his upcoming meeting with Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo;
- 4) Sen. Mary L. Landrieu (D-LA), recommending the President to support a moment of silence honoring the ideals of world peace during the inaugural ceremonies of the 2000 Summer Olympic games in Sydney, Australia;
- 5) Rep. James C. Clyburn (D-SC) and thirty-one other Members of Congress, concerning the current situation in Sierra Leone and the Lome Accords;
- 6) Rep. Norman D. Dicks (D-WA) and thirty-seven other Members of Congress, recommending the President to sustain and strengthen political, economic and cultural ties with Turkey;

MAY 30 18:23

- 7) Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), recommending the President to address political developments in Belarus during his upcoming meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin;
- 8) Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), concerning the START II Treaty;
- 9) Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY) and thirteen other Members of Congress, concerning the possibility of resuming the suspended United States military to military relationship with Indonesia;
- 10) Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA), recommending the President to address the issue of the release of Mr. Edmond Pope during his upcoming meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin;
- 11) Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), recommending the President to address the issue of international parental abduction during his upcoming meeting with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder;
- 12) Rep. Cynthia A. McKinney (D-GA), concerning the current situation in Sierra Leone;
- 13) Rep. Robert Menendez (D-NJ), concerning the case of Elian Gonzalez;
- 14) Rep. George Miller (D-CA) and thirty-six other Members of Congress, concerning the investigations of a group of murders alleged to have been ordered by former Chilean General Augusto Pinochet;
- 15) Rep. Matt Salmon (R-AZ), concerning the transfer of Muhammad Deif from the Palestinian Authority to the United States for prosecution in a U.S. court of law;
- 16) Rep. Frank R. Wolf (R-VA), concerning the problem of diamond trafficking in Africa and the current situation in Sierra Leone.

Enclosures

**THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

ID# 418152
PAGE 1

DATE RECEIVED: 05/25/2000

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT MENENDEZ

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVENE TO END CASTRO'S ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT HIS MALIGNED SOCIAL EXPERIMENT ON U.S. SOIL AND TO ENSURE THAT ELIAN AND THE GONZALEZ FAMILY ARE NOT FURTHER MANIPULATED BY THE CASTRO REGIME

		ACTION		DISPOSITION		
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	CHARLES "CHUCK" BRAIN	ORG	2000/05/25		C	05/25/00
ACTION COMMENTS						
NSC						
ACTION COMMENTS:						
ACTION COMMENTS:						
ACTION COMMENTS:						

COMMENTS BATCH #418143

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 0

MEDIA: LETTER

INDIVIDUAL CODES:

REPORT CODES:

USER CODES:

ACTION CODES:

A - APPROPRIATE ACTION
C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION
D - DRAFT RESPONSE
F - FURNISH FACT SHEET
I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY
R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY
S - FOR SIGNATURE

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - ANSWERED
B - NON-SEPC-REFERRAL
C - COMPLETED
S - SUSPENDED

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER
CODE = A
COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0003655
RECEIVED: 31 MAY 00 15

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: MENENDEZ, ROBERT

DOC DATE: 19 MAY 00
SOURCE REF: 418152

KEYWORDS: CUBA CO
HUMAN RIGHTS

PERSONS: GONZALEZ, ELIAN

SUBJECT: URGES POTUS COMBAT CUBAN ATTEMPTS TO MANIPULATE GONZALEZ FAMILY

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER DUE DATE: 12 JUN 00 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: PATTEN LOGREF:

FILES: PA NSCP: CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
PATTEN

FOR CONCURRENCE
HOLLIS
LACKEY

FOR INFO
SCHWARTZ
VALENZUELA

COMMENTS: IF FINAL REPLY CANNOT BE PREPARED BY DUE DATE, AN INTERIM RESPONSE
MUST BE PREPARED FOR MILES LACKEY'S SIGNATURE.

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSSWL CLOSED BY: DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

3655

June 28, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ES*

FROM: WENDY PATTEN *WP*

SUBJECT: Letter from Representative Menendez on Elian
Gonzalez Case

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response
to a letter from Representative Robert Menendez on the Elian
Gonzalez case.

The NSC received the incoming correspondence on May 31, 2000.

Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mary DeRosa, Dan Shapiro *WP
Son*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum.

Attachment

Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Response to Representative Menendez

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

*Clearances? yes
needs an
explanation of
why so late.*

*added
to memo
JP
7/6*

3655

Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)

From: Tierney, Mary "Theresa" T. (MULTI)
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2000 12:34 PM
To: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Cc: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Subject: RE: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi June - Thanks! I have added 'REDO' by the package number on the Berger Memo as instructed by Admin. I wasn't sure if all 3 documents had been changed so I renamed all of them to 'REDO' to keep it straight. Theresa
Here they are:



3655 SRB memo
REDO.doc



3655 POTUS memo
REDO.doc



3655 MenendezElian
let REDO.do...

-----Original Message-----

From: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2000 12:07 PM
To: Tierney, Mary "Theresa" T. (MULTI)
Cc: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Subject: RE: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Theresa,

The package and diskette is in ExecSec -- you may e-mail the changed document(s) back to me, and I will print and substitute in package and initial for Wendy and Eric (if okay)

Thanks -- June

-----Original Message-----

From: Tierney, Mary "Theresa" T. (MULTI)
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2000 10:21 AM
To: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Subject: FW: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Hello - we have printed out a new copy of this package - do you still have it there?
Theresa

-----Original Message-----

From: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2000 10:19 AM
To: Tierney, Mary "Theresa" T. (MULTI)
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: RE: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

hasn't come back to me. perhpas you could check with exec sec, but it might have come over this morning to records.

-----Original Message-----

From: Tierney, Mary T. (Theresa) (MULTI)
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2000 8:51 AM
To: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: RE: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Wendy, I reprinted the package and saved their changes to the G drive. Did they send the package back? I will need the package to update the disk. T2

-----Original Message-----

From: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2000 6:35 PM
To: Tierney, Mary T. (Theresa) (MULTI)
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs

Subject: FW: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Theresa -- see changes. Please make them in all the requisite places (hardcopy, disk, my G drive) and I will sign off in the morning. This time I'll remember to note the concurrences were via email.

thanks -- WLP

-----Original Message-----

From: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2000 6:16 PM
To: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI); Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @CROSS - Cross Hatches; Jacobson, Tracey A. (ADMIN)
Subject: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Re: Elian Gonzalez Case

Wendy: Did Hollis/DeRosa/Shapiro clear package -- no initials on cover memo. Also, there needs to be an explanation in the cover memorandum why response is so late.

Please note a few changes by ExecSec.

<< File: 3655 MenendezElian let.doc >> << File: 3655 POTUS memo.doc >> << File: 3655 SRB memo.doc >>

June 28 July 7, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ

FROM: WENDY PATTEN

SUBJECT: Letter from Representative Menendez on Elian
Gonzalez Case

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response to a letter from Representative Robert Menendez on the Elian Gonzalez case.

We held this response while awaiting the decisions of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court in this case. These decisions, which were imminent, affected the content of the response.

The NSC received the incoming correspondence on May 31, 2000.

Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mary DeRosa, Dan Shapiro
{cleared via email}

RECOMMENDATION

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Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Response to Representative Menendez

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

3655

Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)

From: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2000 6:21 PM
To: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC); Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @CROSS - Cross Hatches; Jacobson, Tracey A. (ADMIN)
Subject: RE: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

June - they did clear. Will make changes and get it back to you right away. thanks -- WLP

-----Original Message-----

From: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2000 6:16 PM
To: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI); Hollis, Caryn C. (INTERAM); DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL); Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @INTERAM - Inter-American; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @CROSS - Cross Hatches; Jacobson, Tracey A. (ADMIN)
Subject: PCKG 3655: Congressional Letter from Robert Menendez [UNCLASSIFIED]

Re: Elian Gonzalez Case

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<< File: 3655 MenendezElian let.doc >> << File: 3655 POTUS memo.doc >> << File: 3655 SRB memo.doc >>

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER
CHARLES M. BRAIN

SUBJECT: *Congressional Correspondence*
~~Letter from Representative Menendez~~ on Elian
Gonzalez Case

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Representative Menendez, urging you to intervene to end what he perceives as Castro's attempts to indoctrinate Elian Gonzalez on U.S. soil.

Background

In his letter, Representative Robert Menendez criticizes the U.S. for allegedly permitting the communist indoctrination of Elian Gonzalez through classes conducted by his Cuban teacher at the Gonzalez's temporary residence near Wye Plantation. He also contends that Cuban officials were dictating the family's daily activities.

Your response notes that Elian and his family spent time together away from the media spotlight. You indicate that Cuban government officials did not dictate their daily activities, nor did they interfere with the strong bond between parent and child that lies at the heart of this matter. You express your hope that Elian and his family will now be able to resume their normal lives, far from the public attention of recent months.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached *letter* response.

Attachment *letter*
Tab A ~~Response~~ to Rep. Menendez
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

July 7, 2000

*See note on
text.*

*Redo -
See not on
lyt
red*

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *original*

FROM: WENDY PATTEN *original*

SUBJECT: Letter from Representative Menendez on Elian
Gonzalez Case

Attached is a memorandum to the President and proposed response to a letter from Representative Robert Menendez on the Elian Gonzalez case.

We held this response while awaiting the decisions of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court in this case. These decisions, which were imminent, affected the content of the response.

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Concurrence by: Caryn Hollis, Mary DeRosa, Dan Shapiro
{cleared via email}

RECOMMENDATION

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Attachment

Tab I Memorandum for the President

Tab A Response to Representative Menendez

Tab B Incoming Correspondence

3655

Wasserman, Elaine P. (EXSEC)

From: Wasserman, Elaine P. (EXSEC)
Sent: Saturday, July 08, 2000 6:04 PM
To: Patten, Wendy L. (MULTI)
Cc: @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs; @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary
Subject: Package 3655 Ltr to Rep. Menendez on Elian Gonzalez Case [UNCLASSIFIED]

Subject package was returned from Jim Steinberg with the following note: Redo. See note on text. In text of letter, first para, second sentence, he wrote: How do we know this?

Package and diskette will be returned in Monday a.m. first mail run.

Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding Elian Gonzalez and your concern about the lessons provided by his Cuban teacher.

Once the INS determined that Juan Miguel Gonzalez was Elian's father and that he had a close relationship with his son, the INS recognized his legal right to speak for Elian and took steps to reunite Mr. Gonzalez with his son. With respect to his classes at Wye, it is the father's position to make decisions about his child's education. With respect to visits by Cuban diplomats, we exerted some control over Cuban diplomats traveling to Wye, but the Gonzalez family ultimately determined with whom they would meet and how they would spend their time.

It is my hope that Elian Gonzalez and all Cuban children will soon be able to enjoy a democratic Cuba and the benefits of an open economy. I know that you and I share this hope.

Thank you for your thoughts on this important matter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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JB

B.O.

Dear Representative Menendez:

Thank you for your letter concerning Elian Gonzalez.

During Elian's stay near Wye Plantation and in Washington, ~~Elian, his father, and~~ his family enjoyed quiet time together away from the media spotlight. ~~They were able to become a strong family once again.~~ Although they received visits from Cuban government officials, those officials did not dictate their daily activities, nor did they interfere with the strong bond between parent and child that lies at the core of this matter.

It is my hope, now that Elian and his family have returned to Cuba, that they will be able to resume their normal lives, far from the public attention of recent months.

Thank you for ~~writing and~~ sharing your thoughts with me on this important matter.

↗
Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2 pages
or longer
one page

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding Elian Gonzalez. ~~And I appreciate~~ your concern about the lessons provided by his Cuban teacher during his stay near Wye Plantation.

~~He~~ ~~that he~~ ~~right to~~
Once, INS determined that Juan Miguel Gonzalez was Elian's father and had a close relationship with his son. INS recognized him as the sole individual who could legally speak for Elian and took steps to reunite Mr. Gonzalez with his son. With respect to his classes at Wye, it was Juan Miguel Gonzalez's right as a father to make decisions about his child's education. ~~position~~ ~~is the~~

~~ultimately~~
With respect to visits by Cuban diplomats, it was up to the Gonzalez family to determine with whom they would meet and how they would spend their time. ~~Although we exerted some control over Cuban diplomats traveling to Wye, provided security, and ensured that Elian did not leave U.S. jurisdiction, we did not otherwise intervene.~~ But

It is my hope that Elian Gonzalez and all Cuban children will soon be able to enjoy a democratic Cuba and the benefits of an open economy. While we may disagree on aspects of the Elian Gonzalez case, I know that you and I share this hope.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on this important matter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menerdez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

3655

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Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

are
not aware

~~the~~

How do
we
know this?

How
do we
know
this?

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding Elian Gonzalez and your concern about the lessons provided by his Cuban teacher.

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Thank you for your thoughts on this important matter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3655
ditto
made
1/5
JB

Bol

Dear Representative Menendez:

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During Elian's stay near Wye Plantation and in Washington, ~~Elian, his father, and his family~~ enjoyed quiet time together away from the media spotlight. ~~They were able to become a strong family once again.~~ Although they received visits from Cuban government officials, those officials did not dictate their daily activities, nor did they interfere with the strong bond between parent and child that lies at the core of this matter.

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Thank you for ~~writing and~~ sharing your thoughts with me on this important matter.

↗
Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

3655

2 pages
or longer
one page

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter regarding Elian Gonzalez. ~~I appreciate your concern about the lessons provided by his Cuban teacher during his stay near Wye Plantation.~~

~~Once, INS determined that Juan Miguel Gonzalez was Elian's father and had a close relationship with his son. INS recognized him as the sole individual who could legally speak for Elian and took steps to reunite Mr. Gonzalez with his son. With respect to his classes at Wye, it was Juan Miguel Gonzalez's right as a father to make decisions about his child's education.~~

~~With respect to visits by Cuban diplomats, it was up to the Gonzalez family to determine with whom they would meet and how they would spend their time. Although we exerted some control over Cuban diplomats traveling to Wye, provided security, and ensured that Elian did not leave U.S. jurisdiction, we did not otherwise intervene.~~

It is my hope that Elian Gonzalez and all Cuban children will soon be able to enjoy a democratic Cuba and the benefits of an open economy. While we may disagree on aspects of the Elian Gonzalez case, I know that you and I share this hope.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on this important matter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menerdez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

3655

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter concerning Elian Gonzalez.

*at all
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~~to be sure~~

*How do
we
know this?*

It is my hope, now that Elian and his family have returned to Cuba, that they will be able to resume their normal lives, far from the public attention of recent months.

*How
do we
know
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Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me on this important matter.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Robert Menendez
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3013

PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

ACTION OFFICER:

Patton

LOG NUMBER:

3655

DUE DATE:

12 Jun

DATE STAFFED:

31 May

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:



PRESIDENT



NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM:

Menendez

PREPARE A RESPONSE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S OR NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE WITHIN 10 DAYS. IF A LETTER DOES NOT REQUIRE A RESPONSE, PLEASE RETURN IT TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (RM 379) WITH THIS FORM, ANNOTATED ACCORDINGLY.