

FOIA MARKER

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Original OA/ID Number: 2045				
Document ID: 9804460				
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UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9804460
RECEIVED: 18 JUN 98 17

TO: JACKSON, JESSE

FROM: BERGER

DOC DATE: 09 JUL 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: NIGERIA

PERSONS: JACKSON, JESSE

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO STATEMENT BY REV JACKSON ON NIGERIA

ACTION: BERGER SGD LTR

DUE DATE: 24 JUN 98 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BARKS-RUGGLES

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
BARKS-RUGGLES
NSC CHRON
RAGAN

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY TTS DATE 7/9 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSTSM

CLOSED BY: NSTTS

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9804460

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 BARKS-RUGGLES	Z 98061817 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
002 BERGER	Z 98061917 FOR SIGNATURE
002 BARKS-RUGGLES	Z 98061921 FOR FURTHER ACTION
003 BERGER	Z 98062215 FOR SIGNATURE
003 BARKS-RUGGLES	Z 98062312 FOR REDO
003 BERGER	Z 98062312 FOR SIGNATURE
004	X 98070914 BERGER SGD LTR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9804460
RECEIVED: 18 JUN 98 17

TO: NSC STAFF

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 16 JUN 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: NIGERIA

PERSONS: JACKSON, JESSE

SUBJECT: POTUS REQUEST NSC RECOM RE 11 JUN JACKSON SPEECH ABOUT NIGERIA

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER

DUE DATE: 24 JUN 98 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: BARKS-RUGGLES

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
BARKS-RUGGLES

FOR CONCURRENCE
BUSBY
RUDMAN

FOR INFO
SCHWARTZ
WILSON

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

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DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

**National Security Council
The White House**

*6/19/98
@ 4:15 PM*

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 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TMA A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
<i>J</i> Cosgriff	<u>1</u>	<u>(P) 6/19</u>	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
Rice			
Davies	<u>2</u>	<u>(P) 6/19</u>	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
Kerrick	<u>3</u>		<u><i>redo</i></u>
Steinberg	<u>4</u>		<u>(Back to E. Burke-Rogers)</u>
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>5</u>		
Records Mgt.			
<u>Burke-Rogers</u>	<u>6</u>		

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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cc:

COMMENTS:

98 JUN 19 PM 12:00

Exec Sec Office has diskette *yes*

**National Security Council
The White House**

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 4460 Redo
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 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TMA A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
<i>R</i> Cosgriff	_____	_____	_____
Rice	<u>1</u>	<u>PR 6/22</u>	<u>edit done</u>
Davies	_____	_____	_____
Kerrick	_____	_____	_____
Steinberg	<u>2</u>	_____	_____
Berger	<u>3</u>	<u>PR</u>	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>PR 7/9</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.	<u>5</u>	_____	<u>D</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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cc:

COMMENTS:

*approval given
to ExSec from
the road*

'98 JUN 22 pm 1:06

Exec Sec Office has diskette

[Signature]

**National Security Council
The White House**

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 4460 Redo
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 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TMA A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
<i>R</i> Cosgriff	_____	_____	_____
Rice	<u>1</u>	<u>PR 6/22</u>	<u>Ed + Done</u>
Davies	_____	_____	_____
Kerrick	_____	_____	_____
Steinberg	<u>2</u>	_____	_____
Berger	<u>3</u>	<u>PR</u>	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>PR 7/9</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.	<u>5</u>	_____	<u>D</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action	I = Information	D = Dispatch	R = Retain	N = No Further Action
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CC:

COMMENTS:

*approval given
to ExSec from
the road.*

98 JUN 22 pm 1:05

Exec Sec Office has diskette *Yes*

National Security Council
The White House

6/19/98
@ 4:15 PM

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 4460
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PBS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TMA A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
<i>J</i> Cosgriff	<u>1</u>	<u>6/19</u>	<u>Done</u>
Rice			
Davies			
Kerrick	<u>2</u>	<u>6/19</u>	<u>edit</u>
Steinberg	<u>3</u>		<u>redo</u>
Berger	<u>4</u>		<u>Back to E. Barks-Rogers</u>
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>5</u>		
Records Mgt.			
<u>Barks-Rogers</u>	<u>6</u>		

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS:

'98 JUN 19 PM 12:00

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1998

Dear Jesse:

Thank you for sending the President and me copies of your statement on the rapidly changing situation in Nigeria. I agree with your assessment that the sudden and unexpected death of General Abacha might afford Nigeria an opportunity to make progress on a credible transition to civilian democratic government. As we work through this process, it will be important for all of us to work together and speak with one voice to communicate clearly and quickly to the Nigerian government our desire to see improved bilateral relations in the context of a successful transition.

As you know, the President's call to General Abubakar conveyed our hopes for a credible and lasting transition to civilian democratic government in Nigeria, while reaffirming our friendship with the people of Nigeria. Abubakar appreciated receiving the call, and appeared receptive to the message. The President also emphasized, as you did in your statement, the need to increase respect for basic human rights and the rule of law -- especially in regard to political prisoners -- to ensure progress and a credible transition program.

We are gratified that since the call, the Nigerian government has announced the release from prison of fourteen prominent detainees, including: former Head of State Obasanjo, oil union leaders Milton Dabibi and Frank Kokori, journalist Chris Anyanwu, human rights activist Beko Ransome-Kuti, politician Bola Ige and others.

These releases are a positive first step, but only a first step. Our Ambassador has seen General Abubakar and reiterated the President's offer to send a small team, headed by Under Secretary Pickering, to Nigeria to discuss in detail our hopes and possible support for a credible transition program. We do not yet have a date when the Nigerians will be ready to accept the team, but they have agreed in principle.

I appreciate your continued deep concern for Nigeria and your counsel to me and the President. Your hard work on behalf of the President and Secretary of State in the promotion of democracy throughout Africa is beginning to bear fruit in Nigeria -- one of the most important countries in Africa. Your devotion to this often-frustrating task is extraordinary and helps us to keep the ball moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandy", written in a cursive style.

Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson
Rainbow/PUSH Coalition
1002 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

4460 redo

June 22, 1998

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: JOSEPH C. WILSON

FROM: ERICA BARKS-RUGGLES

SUBJECT: Response to a Statement by Reverend Jesse Jackson
on Nigeria

On June 11, three days after General Abacha died, Reverend Jackson issued a statement on Nigeria, calling for a clear and unified U.S. voice on the importance of a swift and credible transition to civilian democratic government, and the need to ensure the respect for basic human rights. He also called for Congress to pass a resolution urging the military to implement true democratic reforms.

Attached at Tab A is a draft letter to Reverend Jackson outlining the results of the President's phone call to General Abubakar, the recent release of prominent prisoners and our policy as we have publicly stated it to the Nigerians.

Concurrence by: Richard Ragan

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached letter.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Reverend Jackson

Tab B Statement Issued by Reverend Jackson



National Office
 930 East 50th Street • Chicago, Illinois 60615 • Phone: 773-373-3366 • Fax: 773-373-3571
Washington, DC Bureau
 1002 Wisconsin Avenue, NW • Washington, DC 20007 • Phone: 202-333-5270 • Fax: 202-728-1192
Wall Street Bureau
 40 Wall Street, Suite 429 • New York, New York 10005 • Phone: 212-425-7874 • Fax: 212-968-1412

Democracy in the Balance
 Jesse L. Jackson
 6-11-98

The sudden death of Nigerian leader General Sani Abacha this week opens new possibility and new peril for that country. We offer condolences to the Abacha family for their sudden loss. Nigeria now stands in the balance, between the threat of a costly instability and the promise of democratic reform. It is vital that the United States and other nations of the world encourage the transition military government to move forward with democratic reform immediately.

Nigeria is a country with the potential to lift the dreams of African people. One fourth of all Africans are Nigerian. The nation's political and economic influence extends to all corners of the continent. Nigeria produces 10% of all of the oil production of OPEC, the oil producers' cartel. The economies of Nigeria and South Africa drive the African continent's economies. Africa will rise or fall with them.

For fourteen years, the Nigerian military has maintained a monopoly of political power in Nigeria. During this time, corruption has grown. Poverty has spread. People's aspirations have been dashed. Regional and ethnic tensions remain, exacerbated by poverty and the lack of political expression.

General Abacha had committed the military to make a transition to an elected civilian government by October 1. But he jailed many of Nigeria's independent leaders. Independent parties were suppressed. Abacha was nominated as the presidential candidate for each of the five parties contesting the election scheduled for August 1. In April, Nigerians signaled their disapproval by boycotting the election Abacha had scheduled for the civilian legislature.

Now the sole presidential candidate is no more. The transition military regime of Nigeria - led by Maj. Gen Abdusalam Abubakar - faces a major choice: whether to move down the road of real democratic reform or to seek to maintain the military monopoly.

It is vital that the world community encourage Nigeria to move to democracy now. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan immediately offered assistance to Abubakar, encouraging him to "proceed with a peaceful and democratic transition to civilian rule." The Clinton Administration reiterated its support for a "genuine transition to civilian rule."

The tests for that transition are clear. Democracy requires an open process, including the release of political prisoners, freedom of the press, freedom of speech and assembly, and open, free and fair nonviolent elections. Respect for basic human rights - the rule of law, due process, freedom of association, the right to organize - is essential if democracy is to take root.

The United States must speak clearly at this moment. We consume 40% of Nigeria's oil production. We must make certain that the Nigerian military understands that we support the Nigerian people's demand for freedom. That we will not trade human

Sandy
This is good. tell
them what we want. would be
good to have big
production as he says
BC

Copied
Berger
COS
NSC WWD

SANDY

THIS IS GOOD

TELL JESSE

WHAT WILL BE

DONE - WOULD

BE GOOD TO

HAVE CONG.

RESOLUTION

AS HE SAYS

BC

Executive Committee

Rev. Willie T. Barrow, Co-Chair of Board of Trustees • Angela Jordan Davis, Co-Chair of Board of Trustees
 Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., Founder & President • Nancy M. Ware, Executive Director

JUN 17 14:18

rights for oil. The United States must insist that the military government not be given another extended grace period to implement true democratic reform. We must make clear that repression of the Nigerian people's democratic hopes will have harsh bilateral and multilateral consequences. And that pursuit of the path of democratic reform will produce a stronger relationship, in which we can provide significant help in righting the Nigerian economy.

The Nigerian people demand and deserve democracy now. Too many years have passed and too many lives have been lost for the people receive anything less. Their desire to breathe free cannot be deferred again.

The new regime will be tested immediately. Human rights groups are calling for the release of political prisoners. Pro-democracy activists are organizing marches. Workers are seeking rights. The Abubakar government can open the door to freedom, or find itself struggling against the power of hope. The latter course would be truly destructive. Only the former offers a way to move forward.

History opens opportunity which can be grasped or lost. Nigeria now faces a new opportunity. The stakes for Nigeria's proud people and for all of Africa are very great. The United States should not stand mute as the new leaders weigh their options. We should stand clearly for democracy and human rights in Nigeria. If we stand for democracy there, we can expand the promise of liberty to all of Africa. If we do not press firmly for democracy in Nigeria, we cannot stand for freedom anywhere in Africa.

~ [Republican congressional leaders should add the voice of the Congress to that of the White House. A resolution should be passed urging the military to implement true democratic reforms and sponsor free elections to elect a civilian government. The Nigerian people will determine their course. But at this critical moment, the US should speak with one voice, our values and our interest made clear.

4460

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Jesse:

Thank you for sending the President and me copies of your statement on the rapidly changing situation in Nigeria. I agree with your assessment that the sudden and unexpected death of General Abacha might afford Nigeria an opportunity to make rapid ~~and real~~ progress on a credible transition to civilian democratic government. I wanted to update you on our efforts to ensure that we communicate clearly and quickly our desire to see improved bilateral relations in the context of a successful transition.

On ~~Sunday~~, June 14, the President called General Abubakar to convey to him our hopes for a credible and lasting transition to civilian democratic government in Nigeria. He also reaffirmed our friendship with the people of Nigeria and underscored our desire for improved bilateral relations in the context of Nigeria taking swift and significant steps toward a successful transition to a democratically elected civilian government.

^{You}
~~You are correct in your~~ statement to emphasize ^d respect for basic human rights and the rule of law -- especially as it regards to political prisoners -- as a necessity for a credible transition program and progress in Nigeria. The President emphasized this ^{point} in his call, and we were gratified that the following day the Nigerian government announced the release from prison of nine prominent detainees: former Head of State Obasanjo, oil union leaders Milton Dabibi and Frank Kokori, journalist Chris Anyanwu, human rights activist Eeko Ransome-Kuti, politicians Bola Ige and Chief Olabiyi Durojaiye, Uwen Udoh and Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, the former Sultan of Sokoto.

^{The Administration}
These releases are, as ~~we~~ said in a statement on June 16, a positive first step. We hope that this action will be followed shortly by the unconditional release of all political detainees. We are determined, in any event, to ensure that the Nigerian people get the strong, civilian, democratic government they want and deserve. It will, ~~of course~~, be important for the Congress

to support us in our actions, as you suggest in your statement. We will continue to keep key members updated on the situation in Nigeria and our efforts to press for civilian democratic government there.

I appreciate your continued deep concern for Nigeria, your counsel to me and the President, and your hard work on behalf of the President and ~~Secretary Albright~~ in the promotion of democracy throughout Africa.

Secretary of State Sincerely,

Reverend Jesse L. Jackson
Rainbow/PUSH Coalition
1002 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

4460 -
red

THE WHITE HOUSE
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I appreciate your continued deep concern for Nigeria and your counsel to me and the President. Your hard work on behalf of the President and Secretary of State in the promotion of democracy throughout Africa is beginning to bear fruit in Nigeria -- one of the most important countries in Africa. Your devotion to this often-frustrating task is extraordinary and helps us to keep the ball moving forward.

Sincerely,

Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President for
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Washington, D.C. 20007

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4460
tone is wrong.
Jesse is part
of the Administration
relief
false is
wrong - Jesse is
part of the Admin!
why

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Your statement emphasized respect for basic human rights and the rule of law -- especially as it regards to political prisoners -- as a necessity for a credible transition program and progress in Nigeria. The President emphasized this point in his call, and we were gratified that the following day the Nigerian government announced the release from prison of nine prominent detainees: former Head of State Obasanjo, oil union leaders Milton Dabibi and Frank Kokori, journalist Chris Anyanwu, human rights activist Beko Ransome-Kuti, politicians Bola Ige and Chief Olabiyi Durojaiye, Uwen Udoh and Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, the former Sultan of Sokoto.

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the Admin!
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part of the
Administration

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Washington, D.C. 20007