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WHORM Subject File Code: CO153
(Countries - Syrian Arab Republic)
Case File Number(s): BEGIN-099999
Box: 179

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

Withdrawer

DLB 9/7/2010

File Folder CO153 (SYRIA) (BEGIN-099999)

FOIA

S10-306

Box Number 179

SYSTEMATIC

1072

ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
97208 PAPER	BIO	1	ND	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Bp

C.F.

017707

1130

NSC 1224

0153

FG011

FG006-12

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

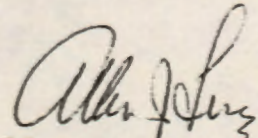
March 20, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. L. Paul Bremer
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: Agreement of Dr. Rafik Jweijati of the Syrian Arab Republic as Ambassador to the United States (S/S 8107981)

The President has reviewed and concurs in the recommendation of the Department of State that the appointment of Dr. Rafik Jweijati as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United States would be agreeable to the Government of the United States. You are requested to so inform the Syrian Government.


Allen J. Lenz
Staff Director

cc: Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker

NSC #8101224

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1224

ACTION

March 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: GEOFFREY KEMP *GK*
SUBJECT: Agreement of Dr. Rafik Jweijati of the Syrian Arab Republic as Ambassador to the United States

At Tab B is the Department of State memorandum recommending the appointment of Dr. Rafik Jweijati as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Syria to the United States. His biographic sketch is also attached.

If you concur with the Department of State, the memorandum at Tab A for Allen Lenz's signature to State will relay the President's approval to the proposed appointment.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve that Allen Lenz sign the memorandum at Tab A.

DISAPPROVE _____

NSC/S:

I dated this the 20th because State had to know if it had been approved Friday and it was, therefore they cabled out the information and dated it the 20th.

We did not get the folder until today.

Also, could you please send me a copy.

Thanks, Carol C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 13, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Appointment of Dr. Rafik Jweijati of the Syrian Arab Republic as Ambassador to the United States.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has inquired whether our Government agrees to the appointment of Dr. Rafik Jweijati as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Syria to the United States (Tab 2). A biography of Dr. Jweijati is attached (Tab 1).

The Department believes from the information available that Dr. Jweijati will make a good ambassador to the United States and recommends that the President agree to the proposed appointment. If he concurs, the Department will inform the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Paul Bremer, III".

L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Biography.
2. Note dated February 24, 1981 from Embassy of Syria.

~~(UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF ATTACHMENTS)~~ db 9/3/10

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

EMBASSY OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
2215 WYOMING AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

His Excellency
Alexander M. Haig
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Upon instructions from my government I have the honor to request the agreement of the government of the United States of America for the appointment of Dr. Rafik Jweijati, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United States of America.

I am transmitting herewith the curriculum vitae of Dr. Jweijati.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.



Abdul Hassib Istwani
Charge d'Affaires ad interim

Department of State
Washington, D.C.
February 24, 1981

CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

- 1 - Licenciante of Law - Damascus University.
- 2 - Diploma of Interpretation, Higher School of Arabic.
- 3 - Diploma of Political Economy, Faculty of Law - Paris (La Sorbonne).
- 4 - Diploma of Humanities - London University.
(International Law, International Economics, International Relations).
- 5 - PHD in Political and Social Sciences (New School for Social Research), New York.
- 6 - Parvin Fellows Fellowship - (Princeton).

EXPERIENCE

- Joined Foreign Ministry by competition in 1947.
- 1947 - 1952 - Attache, Third, and Second Secretary - Embassy of Syria, London.
- 1952 - 1954 - Departments of Western Europe, Protocol, Chief of Cabinet of the Minister.
- 1954 - 1956 - First Secretary, Embassy of Syria, Madrid.
- 1956 - 1958 - Loaned to United Nations Secretariat (Political Officer, Security Council and Political Affairs Department).
- 1958 - Charge d'Affaires - Syrian Delegation to the United Nations.
- 1959 - Secretary General of the Institute of Economic Development, Damascus (on loan).
- 1959 - 1961 - Secretary General of the General Authority of Petroleum, Damascus (on loan).
- 1961 - 1962 - Bureau of International Relations - Presidency of the Republic.

- 1963 - 1964 - Chief of Cabinet of the Foreign Minister.
- 1964 - 1973 - Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations.
- 1973 - 1981 - Director of the Department of Western Europe - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Damascus.
- Representative to the Euro-Arab Dialogue.

PUBLICATIONS: In English

- The Political Thought of Roger Martin du Gard.
- Reflections on the Political, Legal and Economic Theory.
- The A, B, C, of Economic Development.
- Introduction to Political Science.

DECORATIONS:

Spanish, German and French.

LANGUAGES:

French, Spanish English.

NSC/S PROFILE

CONFIDENTIAL

ID 8101224

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

db
9/3/10

RECEIVED 14 MAR 81 10

TO HAIG, A

FROM ISTWANI, ABDUL H

DOC DATE 24 FEB 81

BREMER

13 MAR 81

KEYWORDS: SYRIA

AGREMENT

JWEIJATI, RAFIK

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF JWEIJATI OF SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AS AMB TO US

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO LENZ TO BREMER DUE: 17 MAR 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

KEMP

COMMENTS

REF#

8107981

LOG

NSCIFID

(M /)

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
<i>RA</i>	<i>3/16</i>	<i>La Decision</i>	<i>3/21</i>	
	<i>3/20</i>	<i>LVA apwd recon</i>		
<i>Lenz</i>	<i>3/20</i>	<i>La Signature</i>	<i>3/21</i>	
<i>C</i>	<i>3/20</i>	<i>Lenz sq memo to Bremer</i>		

DISPATCH

AW. 3/23

W/ATTCH FILE

up
EM
9B
KEU
W
H.

ID # 026019
00153

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 81105122

Name of Correspondent: Nihad Hamed

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Supports the alienated rights of the Syrian Government for self-defense. Views re: same.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
OL Bulger		ORIGINATOR	81105126	CS JP	A	81,06,18
		Referral Note:	1 1			1 1
		Referral Note:	1 1			1 1
		Referral Note:	1 1			1 1
		Referral Note:	1 1			1 1

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comments
- D - Draft Response
- F - Fact Sheet
- I - Info Copy/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: M Individual Codes: 4400 _____

Prime Subject Code: CO 153 Secondary Subject Codes: CO 045 _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

<u>Code</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>Form</u>
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 -

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 18, 1981

Mr. Nihad Hamed
3642 Karen Parkway
Pontiac, Michigan 48054

Dear Mr. Hamed:

On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for your communication concerning U.S. policy toward Syria. Your comments will be reviewed by the appropriate Administration officials and receive all due consideration.

We appreciate your concerns, and thank you for sharing them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jack Burgess", written over a circular stamp or mark.

Jack Burgess
Special Assistant to
the President

18
N. HAMED
3642 KAREN PARKWAY
PONTIAC MI 48054

western union Mailgram®



4-0042238142 05/22/81 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP WSHB
3136828885 MGM TDBN PONTIAC MI 125 05-22 0659A EST

Amam Bahshian

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

026019

THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED STATE AND CANADA
CALL ON THE ARAB NATIONS, MONARCHS, PRESIDENTS TO SUPPORT THE
ALIENATED RIGHTS OF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT FOR SELF DEFENSE.

THE FIA HAD BROADCASTED TO OUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GOVERNMENT THE USE
OF OUR AMERICAN ARMS AND FUNDS IN CARRYING A CAMPAIGN OF BOMBARDMENT
KILLING OF THE ARAB PALESTINIANS AND LEBANESE MUSLIM AND THE CHRISTI
AN ALIKE

THE ISRAELI UNLEASHED ARROGANCE DISMAYS THE WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD AND
ITS INSISTANCE TO DISARM THE ARAB NATION FOR SELF DEFENSE IT MAKES
GREAT THREATS TO THE WORLD PEACE

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL THE FOREIGN MINISTERS
NIHAD HAMED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC
ASSOCIATIONS IN U.S. AND CANADA

06157 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 18, 1981

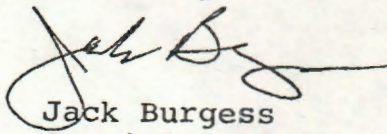
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3642 Karen Parkway
Pontiac, Michigan 48054

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We appreciate your concerns, and thank you for sharing them.

Sincerely,



Jack Burgess
Special Assistant to
the President

18
N. HAMED
3642 KAREN PARKWAY
PONTIAC MI 48054

western union Mailgram®



4-0042238142 05/22/81 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP WSHB
3136828885 MGM TDBN PONTIAC MI 125 05-22 0659A EST

Amam Bakshian

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

026019

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NIHAD HAMED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC
ASSOCIATIONS IN U.S. AND CANADA

06:57 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

109

ID # 026105
11153

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- OUTGOING
- INTERNAL
- INCOMING

PRESERVATION COPY

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8/5/22

Name of Correspondent: Nihad Hamed

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Support of Syrian govt

DATE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CNSTR</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8/5/22</u>		<u>C 8/12/14</u>
<u>STATE</u>	Referral Note: <u>A</u>	<u>8/10/27</u>	<u>WAN</u>	<u>C 8/12/09</u> CS
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:
 A - Appropriate Action
 C - Comment/Recommendation
 D - Draft Response
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
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 X - Interim Reply

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 B - Non-Special Referral
 C - Completed
 S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
 Type of Response = initials of Signer
 Code = "A"
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments:

Attach this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
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S/S # 8116530
Date December 9, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. James W. Nance
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: Edwin Meese FROM: Mr. Nihad Hamed
DATE: May 22, 1981 SUBJECT: Support of Syrian
Government

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 5/27/81 NSC # 026105
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS: Given the nature of the message and the fact that this organization makes frequent complaints and assertions of this type, we do not believe a response is warranted.

Mary M. DeGuzman for
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

12/10
Thinking should be sent
called for copy
to be sent

S/S # 8116530
Date December 9, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. James W. Nance
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: Edwin Meese FROM: Mr. Nihad Hamed
DATE: May 22, 1981 SUBJECT: Support of Syrian
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Mary M. DeGuzman for
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

6

611000

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL**

MAY 27, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROPRIATE ACTION**

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

4
3
2
1
5
4
3
2
1
0

ID: 026105__
MEDIA: MAILGRAM, DATED MAY 22, 1981
TO: EDWIN MEESE

**FROM: MR. NIHAD HAMEED
SECRETARY GENERAL
THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC ACCN.
IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
3642 KAREN PARKWAY
PONTIAC MI 48054**

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF SYRIAN GOVERNMENT

**PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL — IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.**

**RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 33, THE WHITE HOUSE**

**BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
LESLIE SORG
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Bill -

Sorry, I could
come up with only
the front side
of the tracking
sheet, and only
a copy at that
Alan M. S.

N PAPER
5002 KAREN PARKWAY
PONTIAC MI 48054

4-0002538142 05/22/81 ICS IPPBAGZ CSP WSHB
3136828805 MGM TDBN PONTIAC MI 130 05-22 0701A EST

8116530

Handwritten:
C
M
S

HIS EXCELLENCY E MEESE, ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

026105

THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED STATE AND CANADA
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GREAT THREATS TO THE WORLD PEACE

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL THE FOREIGN MINISTERS
IMAD PAPER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC
ASSOCIATIONS IN U.S. AND CANADA

00159 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

af
1988
Jhr

029782 ⁴⁰⁷³

ID # _____

00153

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 81106124

(142)

Name of Correspondent: Henry Waxman

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Urge you to give a high priority to helping the Jewish community in Syria to exercise its right to emigrate.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>LA FRIE</u>	^{CH} ORIGINATOR	<u>8110624</u>	<u>MF</u>	^{CH} <u>A 8110701</u>
<u>NS SECR</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>8110706</u> ^{CH}	<u>C</u>	<u>8110706</u> ^{CH}
<u>99 DOS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>8110706</u> ^{ID}	<u>A</u>	<u>8110720</u> ^{ID}
_____	_____	<u>1 1</u>	_____	<u>1 1</u>
_____	_____	<u>1 1</u>	_____	<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:

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- C - Comments
- D - Draft Response
- F - Fact Sheet
- I - Info Copy/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
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- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: NSC # 8104073

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: 140 Media: L Individual Codes: 1.230 1.240

Prime Subject Code: CO 153 Secondary Subject Codes: CO 074
MU
EG 031

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time:	P-
DSP		Time:	Media:

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 -

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

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- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

25385

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

S/S # 8120510

Date July 23, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Richard V. Allen
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: The President FROM: Rep. Henry A. Waxman
et al.
DATE: 6/22/81 SUBJECT: Emigration of
Jewish Community in Syria

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 7/7/81

NSC # 8104073
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:

for William Montgomery
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

JULY 20 1981

Dear Mr. Solarz:

I am writing with respect to your letter of June 22 to the President, co-signed by 141 of your colleagues, regarding the condition of the Jewish community in Syria.

The situation of Syria's Jewish community, which now numbers some 4,500 persons, is a matter of continuing concern to the U.S. Government. Prior to the resumption of formal U.S.-Syrian relations in mid-1974, the U.S. Government did what it could through various indirect diplomatic channels to ameliorate conditions for Syria's Jewish community. Since 1974, as your letter notes, we worked toward this objective directly through diplomatic contacts with the Syrian Government. In these efforts, we have consulted with various American Jewish organizations and interested members of Congress.

While the situation is still not perfect, from 1974 through 1976, some of the more onerous restrictions long imposed upon Jews in Syria were gradually relaxed. A series of unpublicized high-level decrees in late 1976 and 1977 eliminated or significantly reduced remaining official restrictions against Syria's Jewish community. Under the new regulations, for example, the identity documents of Jews still include an indication of their religion, but the designation is no longer prominently featured in red ink.

In other areas, important positive changes also occurred. Restrictions on Jewish movements within the country were eliminated as a permanent feature of government policy. Today, Jews can hold government jobs and Jewish merchants are now allowed to import and export goods in the same manner as other citizens. Jewish schools are to be treated equally with other private educational institutions in the country; Jewish community leaders are invited to attend official ceremonies; and Jewish students are admitted to Syrian universities under the same conditions that apply to other Syrian applicants. In addition, Syrian Jews may bequeath or inherit property as other citizens, although some legal complications in their ability to obtain or transfer property deeds and other title documents still occur and they experience the usual bureaucratic delays and red tape. The supreme governmental committee that existed to supervise Jewish affairs has been abolished.

The Honorable
Stephen J. Solarz.
House of Representatives.

The American Embassy in Damascus, which is in regular contact with the community leadership, as well as members of the community and American Jewish representatives who visit Syria, concur that the overall situation of the community has improved under the Assad regime. At the same time, members of the Syrian-Jewish community share with many other Syrian citizens the hazards associated with the country's current uncertain internal security situation, and although the Jewish community has not been the deliberate target of government security measures, dissident terrorism or discrimination related to the security problems in recent months, there have been incidents affecting members of the community.

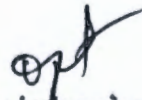
With respect to travel out of Syria, Syrian Jews, like all Syrian citizens, must obtain a passport. Jews are now able to obtain passports more readily than in the past, although passports may be refused for Jews as well as others for a number of reasons. In addition, any Syrian traveling abroad may be required to post a bond which is forfeited by failure to return.

As your letter indicates, a formal ban exists on the emigration of members of the Jewish faith. U.S. efforts to have the ban on Syrian Jewish emigration lifted have been unsuccessful. However, in 1977, the Syrian authorities did permit a number of young Syrian Jewish women to settle in this country. In 1980 an American citizen married a young Jewish woman in Syria, and she was given permission to emigrate to the U.S. Although there have thus been some positive steps in regard to the situation of the community's unmarried women, the leadership of the Syrian community continues to see this situation as its most pressing human and social problem.

The formal ban on emigration for Jews has led some members of the community to try to leave Syria without permission to travel. Clandestine departures during the last several months of 1978 of a sizeable number of community leaders prompted the Syrian authorities to launch an investigation into the incidents. In connection with that investigation, several members of the community were detained for questioning and subsequently released. Since that time, there have been other cases in which Syrian authorities have apprehended members of the community seeking to flee Syria. While the treatment normally associated with investigation in these cases cannot be described as gentle, we have no reason to believe that the treatment of members of the community questioned was harsher than might have been experienced by any Syrian citizen under similar circumstances. We understand that clandestine departures continue to occur.

I hope that this information addresses some of your concerns regarding the welfare of the Syrian Jewish community. The Reagan Administration is determined to work by means judged most effective towards alleviating the hardships of this community. Our goal will be the eventual assurance that all Syrian Jews may leave Syria freely, or remain there in safety and dignity if they wish. Ultimately, progress toward the achievement of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East offers the best hope for further improvement of the conditions of Syria's Jews, including the question of emigration. However, we believe that progress can be made in the meantime, and we are committed to the exploration of all appropriate means to move in that direction.

Sincerely,



Richard Fairbanks
Assistant Secretary
for Congressional Relations

REFERRAL

DATE: 07 JUL 81

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRES

SOURCE: WAXMAN, HENRY A

DATE: 22 JUN 81

KEYWORDS: SYRIA

EMIGRATION

CO

SUBJ: LTR FM 142 REPS RE EMIGRATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SYRIA

REQUIRED ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DJEDATE: 15 JUL 81

COMMENTS:

Cathy Milleson

FOR ALLEN J LENZ

STAFF DIRECTOR

----- FOR NSC USE ONLY -----

FOR INFO KEMP

GUHIN

F WH

O CM C CM

July 1, 1981

Dear L.H.:

The President has asked me to thank you for your June 22 letter, cosigned by 141 of your colleagues, urging that the Administration give priority attention to helping the Jewish community in Syria to exercise its right to emigrate.

The deep interest you have expressed on this matter is most appreciated. I have referred your views to the President's foreign policy advisers for careful review, and I am sure that they will give your concerns immediate and serious attention.

Thank you again for allowing us to have the benefit of your statement on this important issue.

With cordial regard, I am

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedersdorf
Assistant to the President

The Honorable L. H. Fountain
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MLF:CMP:asr

sent cc: w/copy of inc, NSC Secretariat - for DIRECT response,
with copy to Max L. Friedersdorf.

WHITE HOUSE RECORDS MANAGEMENT HAS RETAINED ORIGINAL INCOMING.

(This identical letter was sent to 141 Members of the House.
RECID = 029782.)

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

029782

June 22, 1981

Hon. Ronald Reagan
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to you on behalf of the beleaguered Jewish community in Syria, about whose fate and future we are deeply concerned.

There are approximately 5,000 Jews, the remnant of a once flourishing community, still residing in Syria. They face a number of deprivations and hardships, the most serious of which is the denial of their right to emigrate. Despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of Syrian Jews want nothing more or less than the opportunity to leave Syria so that they can live in freedom in other lands, the Syrian Government, in violation of its obligations as a signatory of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, has refused to let them leave.

Both the Congress and the two previous Administrations were active in efforts to assist Syrian Jewry. Presidents Ford and Carter, as well as Secretaries of State Kissinger and Vance, all took a personal interest in the welfare of the Syrian Jewish community, and undertook high-level representations to the Syrian Government on their behalf. Members of Congress travelling to Syria also raised the emigration issue in their meetings with senior Syrian leaders. These endeavors were rewarded with a small but significant measure of success in 1977, when the Syrian Government permitted 15 unmarried Jewish women to emigrate to the United States. There are, as you likely know, about 500 single Jewish women in Syria for whom there are few marriageable Jewish men available, since most of the latter have long since left Syria.

Although we were hopeful at the time that additional unmarried Jewish women would be allowed to emigrate, not a single Syrian Jew, married or unmarried, has been permitted to leave Syria since then. We strongly believe that continued expressions of concern from the U.S. Government are essential if the Syrians are to be persuaded to resume permitting at least unmarried Jewish women, and hopefully the entire Jewish community, to emigrate. We urge that you accord the same priority to this pressing humanitarian issue as did the Ford and Carter Administrations, and commit your Administration to using whatever influence it may have with President Assad to prevail upon him to let these people go.

We recognize that the United States-Syrian relationship is a strained one, and that the prospects for significant improvement in the near future are uncertain. Nevertheless, we feel it is important for the Syrians to know that how they treat the Jewish community, and more specifically, their position with respect to Jewish emigration, will be one of the factors that the Reagan Administration will take into account in assessing its policy towards Syria.

We hope that we can count on your assistance on this nonpartisan, humanitarian issue, which has been a top priority for previous Administrations, and which, we trust, will be a matter of great importance to your Administration as well.

Sincerely,

✓ *Henry A. Waxman* → Mr.

HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

✓ *Stephen J. Solarz* → Mr.

STEPHEN J. SOLARZ
Member of Congress

✓ *Shirley Chisholm* → Shirley

SHIRLEY CHISHOLM
Member of Congress

✓ *Tom Lantos* → Mr.

TOM LANTOS
Member of Congress

✓ *Ben Rosenthal* → Ben

BENJAMIN S. ROSENTHAL
Member of Congress

✓ *William Lehman* → Bill

WILLIAM LEHMAN
Member of Congress

Barry Frank ^{Mr.}
✓ BARNEY FRANK
Member of Congress

James H. Schever ^{Mr.}
✓ JAMES H. SCHEVER
Member of Congress

Bob
Robert J. Lagomarsino
✓ ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO
Member of Congress

Albert Gore, Jr. ^{Mr.}
✓ ALBERT GORE, JR.
Member of Congress

Don
Donald Joseph Albosta
✓ DONALD JOSEPH ALBOSTA
Member of Congress

Tony Beilenson ^{Mr.}
✓ ANTHONY C. BEILENSON
Member of Congress

Ken Kramer ^{Mr.}
✓ KEN KRAMER
Member of Congress

Frank Horton ^{Frank}
✓ FRANK HORTON
Member of Congress

Sid
Sidney R. Yates
✓ SIDNEY R. YATES
Member of Congress

Marjorie S. Holt ^{Marjorie}
✓ MARJORIE S. HOLT
Member of Congress

Robert A. Young ^{Mr.}
✓ ROBERT A. YOUNG
Member of Congress

Barbara A. Mikulski ^{MS.}
✓ BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
Member of Congress

Clarence D. Long ^{Mr.}
✓ CLARENCE D. LONG
Member of Congress

Dale E. Kildee ^{Mr.}
✓ DALE E. KILDEE
Member of Congress

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✓ JONATHAN B. BINGHAM
Member of Congress

Peter W. Rodino, Jr. ^{Pete}
✓ PETER W. RODINO, JR.
Member of Congress

Tom
Tom Corcoran
✓ TOM CORCORAN
Member of Congress

Bill Frenzel ^{Bill}
✓ BILL FRENZEL
Member of Congress

- ✓ THOMAS J. DONNEY
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ LES ASPIN
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ PAUL SIMON
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ JAMES G. MARTIN
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ PAUL S. Trible, Jr.
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ ED BETHUNE
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ LYNN MARTIN
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ DELBERT L. Latta
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ DAVID R. OBEN
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ LEON E. PANETTA
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ BILL NELSON
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Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ JACK F. KEMP
Member of Congress
Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ PHILLIP BURTON
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Mr. [Signature]
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Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ RICHARD L. OTTINGER
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Mr. [Signature]

- ✓ NICHOLAS MAVROULES
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Mr. [Signature]
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Phil [Signature]
- ✓ ROBERT H. MICHEL
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- ✓ EDWIN B. FORSYTHE
Member of Congress
Ed [Signature]
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Berkley [Signature]
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Member of Congress
Jim [Signature]
- ✓ GERALD B. F. SOLOMON
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Gerry [Signature]
- ✓ OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
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Olympia [Signature]
- ✓ JAMES M. JEFFORDS
Member of Congress
Jim [Signature]
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Mr. [Signature]
- ✓ NORMAN F. LENT
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Norm [Signature]
- ✓ GARY A. LEE
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Gary [Signature]
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Ed [Signature]
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Vin Weber
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Ken [unclear]
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✓ CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress
→ Charlie

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Ms.

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✓ Dante B. Fascell
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BERNARD J. DWYER
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RALPH M. HALL
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MIKE LOWRY
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TED WEISS
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WILLIAM D. FORD
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HAMILTON FISH, JR.
Member of Congress

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W. G. HEENER
Member of Congress

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L. H. FOUNTAIN
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Member of Congress
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MICKEY EDWARDS
Member of Congress
- ✓ Charles I. Dougherty *Mr.*
CHARLES I. DOUGHERTY
Member of Congress
- ✓ Bill Green *Bill*
BILL GREEN
Member of Congress
- ✓ William Hill Boner *Mr*
WILLIAM HILL BONER
Member of Congress

Jim

[Handwritten signature]

John

✓ JOHN EDWARD PORTER
Member of Congress

[Handwritten signature]

✓ JAMES M. COLLINS
Member of Congress

Bill Brodhead *Mr*

✓ WILLIAM M. BROADHEAD
Member of Congress

RECEIVED 08 JUL 81 10

TO PRES FROM WAXMAN, HENRY A DOCDATE 22 JUN 81
 SOLARZ, STEPHEN J 22 JUN 81
 CHISHOLM, SHIRLEY 22 JUN 81

KEYWORDS: SYRIA EMIGRATION
 CO

SUBJECT: LTR FM 142 REPRESENTATIVES RE EMIGRATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SYRIA

ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY DUE: STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

STATE

KEMP ✓

GUHIN ✓

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (C / C)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

DISPATCH _____ W/ATTCH FILE _____ (C)

RECEIVED 08 JUL 81 10

TO PRES

FROM WAXMAN, HENRY A

DOCDATE 22 JUN 81

SOLARZ, STEPHEN J

22 JUN 81

CHISHOLM, SHIRLEY

22 JUN 81

KEYWORDS: SYRIA

EMIGRATION

Wednesday

CO

SUBJECT: LTR FM 142 REPRESENTATIVES RE EMIGRATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SYRIA

ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY DUE:

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c 7/22

Rec'd State Direct Reply

Sk, MG, MF

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7/22 JF

W/ATTCH

FILE

WH (C) JF

Name	Date
Copy of this file sent to Melaine Rm 102 East Wing	UK
	9-14-81

Copy of this file sent to Melaine Rm 102 East Wing UK
9-14-81

REFERRAL

DATE: 03 JUN 82

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3100
CA-153
FB006-12
FB011

TR

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRES

SOURCE: ^XASSAD, HAFIZ

DATE: 31 MAY 82

KEYWORDS: SYRIA

HS

ANNIVERSARIES

SUBJ: THANK YOU MSG FOR PRES ^{resent} NATL DAY MSG TO SYRIA

REQUIRED ACTION: ADVANCE / INFORMATION CY

DUE DATE:

COMMENTS:

Harold J. West
FOR MICHAEL O WHEELER
STAFF SECRETARY

NSC # 8203852

3852

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nbc
(241)

The White House
Washington

WHB005(1555)(1-004622A151)PD 05/31/82 1554

1982 MAY 31 PM 5 16

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1-155061G151 05/31/82
IISS FM WUI 31 1549 UWA3376 WDA012 2726

UWNX BQ SYDA 086
DAMAS 86/84 31 2000 ETAT SYRIA
ETAT

HIS EXCELLENCY MR RONALD REAGAN
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WHITE HOUSE DC

I WISH TO THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR YOUR KIND
GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AND FOR THE KIND WORDS ON THE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR PEOPLE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF

THE SEARCH OF JUST PEACE IN OUR AREA
I AVAIL MYSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR
BEST WISHES FOR YOUR PERSONAL HAPPINESS AND THE PROSPERITY
OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

31/5/1982 HAFEZ AL-ASSAD
COLL ETAT 31/5/1982 *Hafiz al-Assad*
1550 EST
NNNN

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1981 - 356-697

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1981 - 356-697

RECEIVED 03 JUN 82 10

TO PRES

FROM ASSAD, HAFIZ

DOCDATE 31 MAY 82

KEYWORDS: SYRIA

HS

ANNIVERSARIES

SUBJECT: THANK YOU MSG FOR PRES NATL DAY MSG TO SYRIA

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

DUE:

STATUS C FILES WH

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FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

KEMP

TANTER

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ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

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DISPATCH *H.W. 6/3 (S/S-1)*

W/ATTCH FILE _____ (C)

C0153

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 82106124

Name of Correspondent: Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: unopened

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>ND Clav</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>82106125</u>		<u>8210625</u>
	Referral Note:			
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		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: 5 Individual Codes: 3200 _____

Prime Subject Code: 10 153 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence

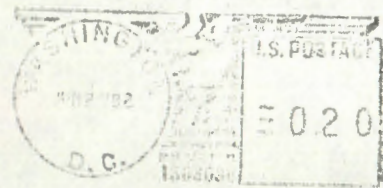
- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

EMBASSY OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
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