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Last Updated: 11/21/2023

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

3483

512394

00049

May 7, 1987 **PY** FG006-12

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK C. CARLUCCI

FROM: ALISON B. FORTIER **ABF**

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representative Tom Coleman (R-Mo.) in Your Office, Friday May 8, 1987 at 11 a.m. - Alison Fortier will also be present.

**Natl Sec Advisor
has seen**

This meeting is at the request of Representative Coleman. He wants to convey to you sensitive information he has learned regarding Ethiopia. He felt that he could not relay information of this nature over the telephone.

It is not clear what will result during this meeting. However, I recommended that you respond favorably to this request which was made by Coleman in a telephone call to me. Representative Coleman is very supportive of the President's national security policies and programs. He plays an active role on the House floor in defending these policies and programs including aid to the Contras, arms control, and defense requests. He is Chairman of the Republican Conference Foreign Policy Task Force and in that capacity organizes briefings for Republican Members to win their support for key Presidential foreign policy programs. Therefore, when he comes in with a request like this which he portrayed as urgent, I thought it wise to agree to his request.

Biography of Representative Coleman is at Tab I.

Hank Cohen **HC** concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you review Representative Coleman's biographical sketch and agree to his request for a meeting.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachment

Tab I Biographical Sketch/Coleman

NSC # 8703483

6 E. Thomas Coleman (R)

Of Kansas City — Elected 1976

Born: May 29, 1943, Kansas City, Mo.

Education: William Jewell College, B.A. 1965; New York U., M.P.A. 1966; Washington U., J.D. 1969.

Occupation: Lawyer.

Family: Wife, Marilyn Anderson; three children.

Religion: Protestant.

Political Career: Mo. House, 1973-77; unsuccessful campaign for Clay County clerk, 1970.

Capitol Office: 2344 Rayburn Bldg. 20515; 225-7041.



In Washington: There is nothing very rural or agricultural about Coleman, a Kansas City lawyer with a public administration degree from New York University. But he does most of his work on the Agriculture Committee, where he tries to negotiate with the Democratic majority and still retain his ties to the Republican administration.

Early in his career, he was most visible as a caustic critic of farm programs sponsored by Democrats. That Coleman is not heard very much any more. These days, he is more likely to be found defending his committee's product, regardless of authorship, against critics in both parties who consider farm subsidies wasteful.

Early in the 99th Congress, when House Democrats drafted an emergency farm credit bill designed to help struggling farmers make it through the 1985 planting season, Coleman stood side by side with Democrat Thomas A. Daschle of South Dakota, the prime Democratic sponsor. "We have not made this a partisan issue or a political issue," Coleman said on the House floor. "We cannot afford to do so." The bill passed, 318-103, with Democrats backing it overwhelmingly and Coleman leading a minority of Republicans in its favor.

Later, when Senate Democrats added provisions liberalizing eligibility for loans, and Daschle agreed to accept them, Coleman protested. But he voted for the changes so the bill could go to the president's desk. Ultimately, Reagan vetoed it, and the veto stood.

As ranking Republican on the Agriculture Conservation and Credit Subcommittee, Coleman has consistently worked with Daschle and with Chairman Ed Jones of Tennessee. But his most conspicuous work has been on the subcommittee dealing with nutrition and food stamps. He has given countless speeches over the years criticizing the food stamp program as wasteful, but gradually he has come to focus on

looking for ways to make it work.

In his first term, Coleman offered an amendment in committee to deny food stamps for a year to anyone convicted of fraud in connection with the program. Later he sought to place an absolute limit on food stamp spending. Agriculture Committee Democrats barely held him off on this issue in 1980, but the following year, with the Reagan administration behind him, he won committee approval of his \$11.5 billion ceiling. In 1982 he was able to place a three-year cap on food stamp spending.

For all those attacks on the program, however, Coleman emerged as one of its supporters when the Reagan administration wanted to scale it back drastically. He joined committee Democrats in holding up House consideration of the omnibus 1981 farm bill until budget director David A. Stockman agreed to add \$700 million to the program.

Still, Coleman pursued his war against food stamp abuses. In the 98th Congress, when the House passed a "hunger relief" bill increasing food stamp benefits, Coleman successfully knocked out a \$1,000 increase in allowable automobile value for food stamp recipients. He complained that even with the previous \$4,500 maximum value, food stamp recipients could drive better cars than the average taxpayer.

On Education and Labor, Coleman has fought waste in student loan programs. He backed the Reagan administration's proposal to use a means test to determine eligibility for the loans, a provision critics said would cause a million students to lose their assistance. Coleman insisted that would not happen, but only limited means testing was enacted.

Coleman also tried to pare down a 1983 bill offering scholarships to prospective math and science teachers. Rather than give two-year scholarships to train students, Coleman would

Missouri 6

Northwest — St. Joseph

A vast stretch of northwestern Missouri, the 6th covers 27 whole counties, encompassing some of the most fertile agricultural areas in the state. But half the district's residents live in a three-county patch of urbanized territory in the 6th's southwest corner.

Although residents of the Kansas City environs in Clay and Platte counties consider themselves "northlanders" and seek an identity distinct from that of the city, many of them find work in its industries and businesses. A Trans World Air Lines plant in this area serves as the district's largest employer, and the Kansas City International Airport is located nearby.

The city of St. Joseph anchors Buchanan County, the third urbanized county in the district. A booming supply depot for prospectors heading to California in search of gold in the 1800s, St. Joseph gained a place in history as the eastern end of the Pony Express. The city today is a flour-milling and agribusiness center.

Partisan preferences in Clay, Platte and Buchanan counties have been mixed in recent years. All three voted Republican for president both in 1980 and 1984. But their residents still vote Democratic for certain

candidates. Thomas F. Eagleton won solid support in this area in his 1980 re-election to the Senate; in 1984, Democrat Harriett Woods swept all three counties in winning election as lieutenant governor.

The rest of the 6th is rural and generally conservative. Parts of the rolling north prairie resemble the Iowa breadbasket; cattle and feed grains dominate the economy.

The closest thing Missouri has to a Yankee influence is found in Putnam, Mercer and a few other 6th District counties on or near the Iowa border. Ohio and Iowa farmers moved into that area long ago, and for years it has rivaled the Ozarks for fidelity to the GOP.

The district as a whole provides few bright spots for Democrats these days. President Reagan carried it handily in both 1980 and 1984. In the latter year, GOP gubernatorial nominee John Ashcroft swept all but two of the 28 counties wholly or partially included within the 6th.

Population: 546,614. White 532,071 (97%), Black 9,571 (2%). Spanish origin 5,688 (1%). 18 and over 396,507 (73%), 65 and over 78,169 (14%). Median age: 32.

have given a one-year grant to retrain existing teachers in math and science. He was rebuffed in committee and on the floor.

At Home: Coleman was running what seemed like a hopeless effort in 1976, but he was in the right place at the right time. His opponent's campaign collapsed overnight, and he inherited thousands of Democratic votes.

Morgan Maxfield, a millionaire Texan transplanted to Kansas City, had won the 1976 Democratic primary with the help of an expensive media barrage, and he was outspending Coleman 3-to-1 on the general election.

But less than a month before the voting, the *Kansas City Star* reported that Maxfield had lied about his early life, marital status and educational degrees. His campaign chairman resigned and criticized him. All Coleman had to do was wait for the election, and when it was over, he had swept to a 37,214-vote victory in a district that had not gone Republican in a quarter-century. He entered the House imme-

diately, filling the vacancy caused by the death of Democrat Jerry Litton, who had been killed in an airplane crash in August on the day he was nominated for the Senate.

Democrats in the 6th are still kicking themselves for having let Coleman win so easily. They mounted vigorous challenges in 1978 and 1982, but in both cases their moderately conservative nominees had trouble finding an issue to use against the resourceful incumbent.

In 1978, Coleman met Democrat Phil Snowden, a 12-year veteran of the state Legislature. Since Snowden shared most of Coleman's conservative views, about all he offered was the argument that he would be better able to work with a Democratic president and Congress. Aiming to remind voters of his days as a football star at the University of Missouri, Snowden ran commercials featuring former Missouri Coach Dan Devine.

Coleman was well prepared for Snowden. Since 1976 he had worked hard to add rural

E. Thomas Coleman, R-Mo.

support to his Kansas City base. He operated a mobile office that roamed through the district's rural counties, and he assured conservative Democrats that he voiced their philosophy.

Snowden improved on Maxfield's 1976 percentage, but Coleman displayed broad strength. He carried every county except one, receiving 56 percent. In 1980 Coleman coasted to a third term against weak opposition.

There was a four-way primary for the Democratic nomination in 1982; the winner was state Rep. Jim Russell, a farmer and chairman of the state House Commerce Committee.

At the outset of his campaign, Russell emphasized his conservative fiscal views and did not take a harsh anti-Reagan line. Instead, he criticized Coleman as a man with few legislative accomplishments and an ordinary record of constituent service.

Coleman was no more eager to defend the president than Russell was to attack him. He stressed his work on agricultural issues and his

fealty to the conservative principles of the 6th.

As the fall campaign wore on, Russell ran short of money, and he realized that his issues were not discrediting Coleman. So he shifted to vigorous criticism of GOP economic policy, calling it "dupenomics" in an October debate, trying to tap the anti-GOP sentiment boosting other state Democratic candidates.

Coleman lost six counties, but he won more than 60 percent in Clay and Platte counties, took Buchanan County by 198 votes and also beat Russell in most of the farming areas. His 55 percent overall tally was the best showing posted by any Missouri Republican running for Congress in 1982.

Two years later, Coleman had little trouble disposing of assistant Daviess County Prosecutor Kenneth C. Hensley, leaving him free to ponder his future political career. The five-term Republican incumbent began considering a campaign for retiring Democrat Thomas F. Eagleton's Senate seat in 1986.

Committees

Agriculture (3rd of 17 Republicans)
Conservation, Credit and Rural Development (ranking); Domestic Marketing, Consumer Relations and Nutrition.

Education and Labor (3rd of 13 Republicans)
Postsecondary Education (ranking); Human Resources; Select Education.

Elections

1984 General

E. Thomas Coleman (R) 150,996 (65%)
Kenneth C. Hensley (D) 81,917 (35%)

1982 General

E. Thomas Coleman (R) 97,993 (55%)
Jim Russell (D) 79,053 (45%)

Previous Winning Percentages: 1980 (71%) 1978 (56%)
1976* (59%)

* Elected to fill a vacancy and at the same time elected to the 95th Congress.

District Vote For President

1984		1980		1978	
D	97,920 (40%)	D	102,849 (42%)	D	119,405 (52%)
R	145,284 (60%)	R	122,321 (50%)	R	107,314 (47%)
		I	17,086 (7%)		

Campaign Finance

	Receipts	Receipts from PACs		Expenditures
1984				
Coleman (D)	\$204,182	\$108,259 (53%)		\$148,331
Hensley (R)	\$40,259	\$7,850 (20%)		\$43,279
1982				
Coleman (D)	\$236,752	\$80,030 (34%)		\$227,674
Russell (R)	\$141,114	\$23,899 (17%)		\$140,536

Voting Studies

Year	Presidential Support		Party Unity		Conservative Coalition	
	S	O	S	O	S	O
1984	55	43	66	27	80	14
1983	65	33	70	27	83	13
1982	56	32	67	28	75	14
1981	70	28	74	18	85	12
1980	41	56	85	11	94	2
1979	34	59	82	12	89	5
1978	32	65	81	16	90	9
1977	44	54	80	17	87	13

S = Support O = Opposition

Key Votes

Raise Social Security retirement age to 67 (1983)	Y
Bar covert U.S. aid to Nicaragua (1983)	N
Reduce dairy price supports (1983)	N
Pass Equal Rights Amendment (1983)	N
Freeze physicians' fees under Medicare (1984)	Y
Bar aid to anti-Sandinista forces in Nicaragua (1984)	N
Pass bill to revise immigration laws (1984)	N
Cut education spending (1984)	Y
Authorize procurement of 21 MX missiles (1985)	Y

Interest Group Ratings

Year	ADA	ACA	AFL-CIO	CCUS
1984	20	58	31	75
1983	15	75	19	74
1982	10	70	25	68
1981	0	73	21	94
1980	6	87	11	73
1979	11	96	10	94
1978	20	93	11	61
1977	15	81	17	88

**National Security Council
The White House**

87 MAY 7 12:40

System # _____
 Package # 3483
 DOCLOG DM AIO _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
Marybel Batjer			
Grant Green	<u>2</u>	<u>[initials]</u>	
Colin Powell	<u>3</u>	<u>[initials]</u>	
Paul Thompson	<u>4</u>		
Frank Carlucci	<u>5</u>	<u>[initials]</u>	<u>A</u>
Grant Green			
NSC Secretariat	<u>6</u>		<u>N</u>
NSC Secretariat			
Situation Room			

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

cc: VP Baker Other _____

COMMENTS Should be seen by: _____
 (Date/Time)

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8703483

RECEIVED 07 MAY 87 12

TO CARLUCCI FROM FORTIER

DOCDATE 07 MAY 87

KEYWORDS: CONGRESSIONAL ETHIOPIA COLEMAN, E THOMAS
AFC

SUBJECT: BIO SKETCH / REQUEST MTG W/ CARLUCCI FOR REP COLEMAN 8 MAY

ACTION: FOR DECISION DUE: 07 MAY 87 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION FOR CONCURRENCE FOR INFO
CARLUCCI

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (LF TC)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

C 5/8 Noted by Carlucci

DISPATCH _____ W/ATTCH FILE _____ (C)

RFH

523654

7482

MS

C0049

F6006-11

F6006-12

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 20, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR RONALD K. PETERSON

FROM: GRANT S. GREEN, JR. *G*

SUBJECT: State Draft Letter on H.R. 588 Regarding Ethiopia

The NSC has no objections to the proposed State Department letter.

NSC 48704482



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20503

October 8, 1987

SPECIAL

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer -

Department of the Treasury - Carro - 566-8523 (28)
National Security Council - Courtney - Room 381
Export Import of the U.S. - Pigman - 566-8967 (36)
Department of Commerce - Levitt - 377-3151 (04)

SUBJECT: State draft report on H.R. 588 to express the opposition of the U.S. to oppression in Ethiopia and for other purposes.

The Office of Management and Budget requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President, in accordance with OMB Circular A-19.

A response to this request for your views is needed no later than OCTOBER 22, 1987.

Questions should be referred to Annette Rooney/Sue Thau (395-7300), the legislative analyst in this office.

RONALD K. PETERSON for
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

CC: Bruce Sasser
Tracy Davis

SPECIAL

H
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Yatron:

I would like to take this opportunity to amplify on a point discussed by Mr. Roth and Mr. Gribbin from our East African Office during the September 15 Subcommittees' hearing on Ethiopia regarding the impact of HR 588 on American exports. The Department fully understands that the bill does not prohibit exports from the U.S. to Ethiopia as such. We do believe, however, that enactment of this legislation would impair such trade for several reasons. First, sanctions would risk reciprocal actions by Ethiopia to restrict trade both in a formal sense because several of the measures in the bill would violate the terms of the 1951 Treaty of Amity and Economic Relations with Ethiopia, but also, and perhaps more importantly, in an informal sense because these sanctions would provide fodder for ideologues in Ethiopia's ruling clique who wish to see all links to the U.S. severed, particularly Ethiopian Airlines' reliance on Boeing aircraft.

Secondly, HR 588 specifically prohibits bank loans to Ethiopia. Most of the \$166,783,000 in outstanding credits from the U.S. public sector to Ethiopia is loans and guarantees for the purchase of Boeing aircraft by Ethiopian Airlines. All of that debt is being serviced on a regular basis. With the prohibition on Exim activities in Ethiopia which was enacted last year, no further Exim lending will take place, even though financing remains a key determinant in aircraft sales. If private American financing were also excluded as would be the case under HR 588, Boeing and Ethiopian Airlines would have the rather considerable hurdle and doubtful prospect of arranging off-shore financing in order to consummate new sales.

A review of information contained in the International Monetary Fund's publication "Direction of Trade Statistics" indicates that U.S. exports to Ethiopia in 1986 were \$113 million and imports \$69 million for a positive trade balance of \$44 million. The positive balances for 1985 and 1984 were \$181 million and \$69 million respectively.

The Honorable
Gus Yatron, Chairman,
Subcommittee on Human Rights
and International Organizations,
Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives.

-2-

In closing, let me reiterate the Department's agreement with the goals set forth in HR 588, even though we do not support the mechanisms proposed in the bill to pursue them. We too seek a halt in human rights abuses and respect for civil and political rights in Ethiopia. In that regard, we will continue to present our concerns to the government in Addis and hold it accountable to the bench of public opinion in the west for violations. We also intend to remain in the forefront on humanitarian issues. We have and will continue to mobilize and catalyze the international donor community as required. Similarly, we insist on improved performance and accountability from the Ethiopian Government in support of international relief operations.

I would be pleased to provide further clarification on our views as you might require.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

J. Edward Fox
Assistant Secretary
Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 16, 1987

ACTION

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR GRANT S. GREEN, JR.

FROM: HERMAN J. COHEN *HJC*

SUBJECT: State Draft Letter on H.R. 588 Regarding Ethiopia

OMB is seeking agency views on a proposed State Department letter regarding the impact of H.R. 588 on U.S. exports to Ethiopia. Attached at Tab I is a memorandum clearing the letter.

Pam *B* Smith, Bob *BO* Oakley, Steve *SE* Farrar, Steve *sf* Danzansky, and Paul *PM* Stevens concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I to Ronald K. Peterson.

Approve *G* Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab I Your Memorandum to Peterson
Tab II Incoming Correspondence

m

National Security Council
The White House

RECEIVED

87 OCT 19 P 6: 29

System # I
 Package # 7482
 DOCLOG M.C. AIO

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bill Courtney	<u> 1 </u>	<u> ✓ </u>	<u> A </u>
Marybel Batjer	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Grant Green	<u> 2 </u>	<u> G </u>	<u> </u>
Colin Powell	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Frank Carlucci	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Grant Green	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lou Michael	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Situation Room	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
West Wing Desk	<u> 3 </u>	<u> 10/20 08 </u>	<u> D </u>
NSC Secretariat	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

cc: VP Baker Other

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: 10/21
 (Date/Time)

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8707482

RECEIVED 09 OCT 87 13

TO GREEN

FROM PETERSON, R

DOCDATE 08 OCT 87

Action
APR

KEYWORDS: ETHIOPIA

SANCTIONS

IMF

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL

SUBJECT: STATE DRAFT REQUEST FOR COMMENTS RE HR-588 / US OPPOSITION TO
ETHIOPIAN POLITICAL OPPRESSION / PROPOSED TRADE SANCTIONS

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO GREEN TO PETERSON DUE: ^{16 OCT}~~08 OCT~~ 87 STATUS S FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COHEN

SMITH

DANZANSKY

MISKEL

OAKLEY

STEVENS

DEAN

FARRAR

ROSTOW

KISSELL

FORTIER

COMMENTS PLEASE HONOR DUE DATE OF OCT 22

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

(SF *RE*)

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
<i>Green</i>	<i>X 10/19</i>	<i>For Sig</i>		
	<i>C 10/20</i>	<i>Green Sig</i>		<i>GSG HJC</i>

DISPATCH *10/20* *CF*

W/ATTCH FILE *(10)*

sg

ID # 548890 CU
-0049

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

Wear

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Amaha Kassa

MI Mail Report

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

Subject: Great-granddaughter of Ethiopian Emperor Haile Sellassie Pleads for clemency for her family

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>Cuhall</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8711215</u>	<u>PY</u>		<u>1 1</u>
<u>Crut 24</u>	Referral Note:	<u>In ABC</u>			
		<u>8711217</u>	<u>PY</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>8711217</u>
	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>
	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:

Referred by Kathy Osborne

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: L Individual Codes: 4612 3501

Prime Subject Code: CO 049 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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO:

~~ELAINE~~ ~~CRISPEN~~ ^{AOE}

FROM

JAMES L. HOOLEY

Deputy Assistant to the President

Director of Presidential Advance

Information

Action

THIS WAS SENT TO ME BY LARRY
ERBOLAND, WHO USED TO WORK FOR
WHITE HOUSE IN FORD ADMIN, AND DID
VOL. ADVANCE FOR RR IN 1980.

ANY INTEREST?

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: A.B. Culvahouse

FROM: KATHY OSBORNE

DATE: 12-15-87

I wasn't sure whether to send this to you or NSC. Anything we can or should do with this?

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: Dec. 15, 1987

TO: Kathy Osborne

Kathy, where does something like this go? Let me know what you do with it so that I don't have to bother you with these in the future.

Thanks.

Janz

FROM: Jane Erkenbeck
Special Assistant to the First Lady
2nd Floor - East Wing
Ext. 6633

**World
Information
Network**

1050 THOMAS JEFFERSON STREET NW
SIXTH FLOOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007

TELEPHONE: 202/342-9614
TELEFAX: 202/342-0560
TELEX: 650-3358667

7 DECEMBER

Jim -

THIS YOUNG GIRL - HAILE SELASSIE'S GREAT-
GRAND DAUGHTER IS PLEADING FOR CLEMENCY FOR
HER FAMILY IN ETHIOPIA.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF MRS. REAGAN COULD
SEE THIS.

THANK YOU,

LARRY EASTLAND

548399 eu
Storm King School
Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY
12520-1899

November 22, 1987

Dear Mrs. Reagan and Mrs. Gorbachev,

My name is Amaha Kassa. I am 14 years old and I have been a resident of the United States for ten years now.

My mother Seble Desta, grand-daughter of the late Emperor Haile Selassie, my grand-mother, and my aunts have been in prison for the last 13 years in Ethiopia.

My mother has not seen me since I was one and my grand-mother is 75 years old.

As mothers, I know you must understand what it must be like not to see your children for a very long time.

I beg both of you to please, please help in getting my mother and her family released and reunite our family for the Christmas holidays. This would be the best Christmas gift I could ever get.

I hope and pray you can help fulfill
my dreams, and I hope your dreams
will also come true.

Sincerely Yours,
Ancha Kassa

ID #

550342

0049

8801867

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 88,01,12

Name of Correspondent: Edward Feighan

MI Mail Report

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

Subject: Indicates that guerilla forces in Ethiopia are attacking convoys carrying relief food to drought and famine victims. Requests that you direct our representative to the U.N. to propose the introduction of U.N. peacekeeping forces in Ethiopia to assist in the transport of food.

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>LABALL</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>88,01,14</u> TR	<u>WB</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>88,01,15</u>
<u>99 DOS</u>		Referral Note:	<u>R</u>	<u>CJ</u>	<u>88,01,20</u>	<u>A</u> <u>88,02,05</u> TR
<u>LaBall</u>		Referral Note:	<u>A</u>	<u>88,02,09</u> TR	<u>C</u>	<u>88,02,09</u> TR
		Referral Note:	<u>FYZ</u>			
			<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: 8 Individual Codes: 1.230 _____

Prime Subject Code: 00 049 - _____ Secondary Subject Codes: II 086 - _____
EQ 003-02 - _____
 _____ - _____

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

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8801867

Date February 5, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Representative Edward Feighan

Date: January 12, 1988

Subject: Requests you direct our rep. to the UN to propose
introduction of U.S. peacekeeping forces in Ethiopia.

WH Referral Dated: January 22, 1988

NSC ID# (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.

X _____ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.

_____ The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.

_____ Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

Jay Salpini
Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

FEB 5 1988

Dear Mr. Feighan:

President Reagan has asked me to answer your letter of January 12 in which you call attention to the alarming situation prevailing in Ethiopia and suggest that a United Nations peacekeeping force might be used to transport food in the contested areas.

As you are no doubt aware, the United States has been in the forefront of the donors who have responded to the Ethiopian Government's request for emergency assistance. By the end of December 1987, we had committed 247,000 tons of relief food, as well as funds for trucks, light airplanes, and other relief requirements--a commitment of nearly \$100 million. This humanitarian aid is now arriving on virtually a daily basis for distribution to those in need. U.S. food donations are being distributed in Ethiopia by well-known and dedicated private voluntary organizations, and you can be assured that it is reaching the men, women, and children for whom it is intended. Thus far, all indications are that food has been reaching distribution centers in the interior in sufficient time to prevent mass starvation.

However, as you rightly point out, the security situation in northern Ethiopia gives all donors, including the U.S., cause for great concern. Since September, Ethiopian insurgents have attacked two convoys carrying relief materials, one a clearly marked UN relief convoy on October 23 while the other, on January 15, was an unmarked commercial convoy. A total of almost 600 tons of grain was destroyed in these incidents. The United States and other donors have protested these attacks by the insurgent Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF); the donors support an "open roads, own risk" policy. If honored, that would allow clearly marked relief vehicles unimpeded passage on the roads of northern Ethiopia. While no UN convoys have been attacked since late October, unmarked trucks belonging to the fleet managed by the Ethiopian Government, such as that destroyed on January 15, have been attacked.

The Honorable
Edward F. Feighan,
House of Representatives.

Draft:AF/E:JLBerntsen:gdp JLB
Clear:AF/E:REGribbin
AF:KLBrown KLB
AID/AFR:SMintz SM
AID/AFR:RCoggins RC
IO/UNP:NASTigliani NAF
IO/D:JGayoso JG
IO/SR:AIrons AI
AF/RA:GMaybarduk
H:HPonder
RP/AFR:MMcKelvey(info)
00990 647-8852 1/27/88
S/S Control No. 8801867

In contrast to the situation in 1984-85, when the Ethiopian Government did not respond to the famine in a timely fashion and moreover by its inaction impeded the donors in several ways, the PDRE (Peoples Democratic Republic of Ethiopia), under pressure from the donors, has been more cooperative during this current relief effort. Specifically, the PDRE has not insisted that relief convoys have military escorts, and the PDRE generally has not prevented relief convoys from traveling on certain roads unless there has been a definite security risk.

In the context of the insecurity prevailing in the region, your suggestion that a United Nations peacekeeping force be introduced into Ethiopia to protect convoys of food and other relief supplies to people suffering from famine is a worthy idea which we will consider further. Realistically, however, the proposal would probably be difficult to implement for at least two reasons.

First, according to UN practice over the past 40 years, at least one party to the conflict--and in most cases both sides--should make a formal request for the introduction of a peacekeeping force. Given the present situation in Ethiopia, it is problematic whether either the government of that country or the EPLF guerrilla movement would accept such a force. At a minimum, the Ethiopian Government would have to agree before a force could be dispatched. We have no indication that the Ethiopian Government desires or has ever contemplated an international force in its territory. If the Ethiopians were to make such a request to the UN, we would have to study it closely since implementation would obviously be a complex and difficult matter with major international political (and financial) implications.

Secondly, since peacekeeping operations fall under the purview of the UN Security Council, any permanent member of the Council could veto a peacekeeping proposal. It is uncertain what the Soviet position would be on sending an international force to Ethiopia. Although the Soviets view Ethiopia as a friendly Marxist state, they have in the past exhibited a distinct distaste for peacekeeping initiatives in general.

Meanwhile we have contacted representatives of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and deplored the most recent attack on the unarmed and unescorted convoy. We noted that the action repudiated earlier assurances that the EPLF would not target humanitarian shipments. In reply the EPLF stuck to the view that the commercial convoy was a legitimate target and the (untrue) assertion that the food was intended for the military. At the same time representatives did register our complaint and did renew the EPLF's commitment to permit clearly marked UN trucks to move unimpeded.

Despite the setback of the latest attack, the donor community will persist and will continue to use all transport resources at its disposal to move food into deficit areas.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

JE EF/s

J. Edward Fox
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8801867

Date _____

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens
Executive Secretary
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Representative Edward Feighan

Date: January 12, 1988

Subject: Requests you direct our rep. to the UN to propose
introduction of U.S. peacekeeping forces in Ethiopia.

WH Referral Dated: January 22, 1988

NSC ID# (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.

X An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.

_____ The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.

_____ Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

Director
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

8801867

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

JANUARY 22, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 550342
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JANUARY 12, 1988
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: THE HONORABLE EDWARD FEIGHAN
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON DC 20515

SUBJECT: INDICATES THAT GUERRILLA FORCES IN ETHIOPIA
ARE ATTACKING CONVOYS CARRYING RELIEF FOOD
TO DROUGHT AND FAMINE VICTIMS. REQUESTS
THAT YOU DIRECT OUR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
U.N. TO PROPOSE THE INTRODUCTION OF U.S.
PEACEKEEPING FORCES IN ETHIOPIA TO ASSIST
IN THE TRANSPORT OF FOOD.

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 CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

January 15, 1988

Dear Mr. Feighan:

Thank you for your letter of January 12 to the President indicating your concern that relief convoys are being impeded in their effort to bring food to famine victims in Ethiopia.

We appreciate receiving your statement of concern, and will share with the President's foreign policy advisers your suggestion that U. N. peacekeeping forces be introduced in that region to assist in the transport of food. I have asked that your inquiry be afforded close attention, and that you be provided with a follow-up response in the near future.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

William L. Ball, III
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Edward F. Feighan
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WLB:KRJ:hlb (RJ)

cc: w/copy of inc to Ed Fox, cong affrs, State - for DIRECT
response

✓cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - FYI



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

January 12, 1988

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan,

Drought and famine have come to Ethiopia once more -- threatening the lives of six million Ethiopians. Although international agencies appear better positioned to help the famine victims than ever before, guerrilla forces in Ethiopia have begun attacking convoys carrying food relief and the Ethiopian government has closed roads needed to deliver the food. I believe that it is necessary to introduce United Nations peace-keeping forces in Ethiopia in order to transport food to help its starving people. I respectfully request that you direct our representative to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, to propose this action to the United Nations Security Council.

The magnitude of this tragedy is very clear. Ethiopia is the world's poorest country. In addition, experts predict that Ethiopia may be caught in a cycle producing local droughts every year, regional droughts every four years, and widespread droughts every decade. One million Ethiopians died as a result of famine three years ago. At one point during the last famine, sixteen thousand people were dying every day in famine camps throughout Ethiopia.

This past summer, the rains in Ethiopia stopped suddenly again. Over half of Ethiopia is suffering from food shortages. In the northern province of Eritrea, eighty percent of the crops failed. International organizations responded quickly to the news of the threat of famine early last fall. The U.S. Agency for International Development announced that 115,000 metric tons of emergency food commodities had been approved for shipment to Ethiopia -- in time for the needed foods to reach Ethiopia's rural highlands before the famine started.

President Ronald Reagan
January 12, 1988
Page two

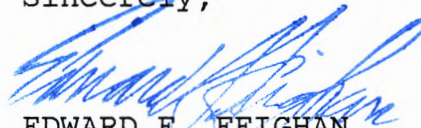
Last October, however, guerrillas engaged in civil war in Ethiopia attacked 23 trucks carrying 647 tons of relief food. The food was destroyed by grenades and one driver was killed. Since October, guerrillas have attacked two other convoys that included food trucks. For the past month, international organizations have been unable to transport food into some of the areas hit hardest by the drought because the Ethiopian government has closed the roads.

In the past, United Nations peace-keeping forces elsewhere in the world have been given mandates to extend humanitarian assistance, as well as to maintain international peace and security. The United Nations Force in Cyprus has been used, for example, to transfer foodstuffs to northern Cyprus, to assist Greek Cypriots attempting to move from the north to the south, to help those wanting to visit relatives living in the north, and to provide emergency medical services. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has also been given mandates to extend humanitarian assistance. Last May, UNIFIL delivered 1,000 tons of foodstuffs and medicine in cooperation with the International Committee for the Red Cross and others. UNIFIL has also treated Lebanese at UNIFIL medical centers and helped reunite prisoners with their families.

Clearly, the situation in Ethiopia is critical. Millions of Ethiopians will die if food shipments do not reach them early this year. The precedent for mandating United Nations peace-keeping forces to extend humanitarian assistance is also clear. I respectfully ask you, therefore, to propose to the United Nations Security Council that it introduce peace-keeping forces in Ethiopia to help transport food and medical supplies during this famine. Thank you very much for your attention to this urgent situation. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Sincerely,



EDWARD F. FEIGHAN
Member of Congress

EFF:als

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0049

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 03, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: BISHOP PAPKEN VARJABEDIAN

SUBJECT: URGES DIRECTING THE U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO DISTRIBUTE AID
TO THE STARVING IN ETHIOPIA - ERITEREA AREAS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
**JUANITA DUGGAN	ORG	88/06/03		C 88/6/14
REFERRAL NOTE: <u>AID</u>				
<u>Agency for International Development</u>	D	88/6/17	TR	A 88/7/08
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

TR

TR

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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

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

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

OFFICE OF
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Date: July 8, 1988

TO : Sally Kelley, Presidential Correspondence, The White House
FROM : ES/CCS, Vernice Butler-Johnson *VBJ*
SUBJECT: Response to Presidential Correspondence

Response(s) to the following correspondence is (are) attached:

Ltr. to President Reagan dated May 31, 1988 from Bishop Papken Varjabedian
re aid to Ethiopia.

The background material is also attached per your request.

Attachments: a/s

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

ASSISTANT
ADMINISTRATOR

JUL 8 1988

Bishop Papken Varjabedian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Dear Bishop Varjabedian:

Your letter to President Reagan concerning the emergency situation in Ethiopia, and the American relief effort to that stricken country has been referred to this office for response. The situation is indeed serious. As many as 5-7 million people may be threatened in 1988, a challenge almost as large as the 1984-85 famine.

In response to the need of the people of Ethiopia, the United States Government has provided and pledged more than 270 thousand tons of food aid. Including sea, land and air transportation costs and other relief supplies, the dollar value of U.S. assistance totals nearly \$100 million for the current emergency.

In early April, the Ethiopian Government recalled all foreign workers from the provinces of Eritrea and Tigray in the north, citing its fear that the foreign relief workers could no longer be protected adequately. The Government said the programs carried out by the foreigners would be handled by the Ethiopian Government, or other Ethiopian-staffed agencies.

As a result of the recall, approximately one million people who have been relying on foreign agencies for food distribution were left without any source of relief. This is mostly because Ethiopian Government relief agencies seldom venture into disputed territory and the activities of indigenous organizations are constrained by the conflict.

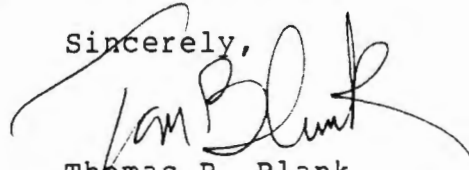
Our latest estimates show there is sufficient donor-provided food to meet all projected need through the end of the year. Food availability, therefore, is not the problem. The problem is reaching people in disputed areas in the north. This requires the cooperation of all combatants.

Volunteers are ready, willing and able to carry out programs in these areas, and the infrastructure and logistical capacity is available to deliver food and other supplies. But often the Ethiopian Government and the rebels have been unwilling to permit unhindered relief programs to go forward.

The United States Government's policy is to ensure we provide an appropriate level of assistance to people at risk in all parts of Ethiopia including areas of conflict.

We are working with other donors to foster better conditions for relief programs in the north. The continued support of the American people for our emergency relief efforts in Ethiopia is both important and encouraging. I can assure you that USAID, on behalf of the American people, will continue to monitor the situation in Ethiopia, searching for new ways to provide an appropriate level of assistance on a timely basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Blank", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas R. Blank
Assistant Administrator
Bureau for External Affairs

Enclosure:

Current Situation Report

mc (ah) DUE: 6/29/88
ACTION: AA/XA for XA sig.
w/CC to ES for transmittal
to White House
INFO: Hageboeck/Joe/ES

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

JUNE 17, 1988

TO: AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTION REQUESTED:
DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 573169
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 31, 1988
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: BISHOP PAPKEN VARJABEDIAN
DIOCESAN LEGATE
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF
AMERICA
3101 PARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA VA 22302

SUBJECT: URGES DIRECTING THE U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO DISTRIBUTE AID
TO THE STARVING IN ETHIOPIA - ERITEREA AREAS

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 CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

JUN 20 11:41 AM '88
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

906233

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

573169



Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate

BISHOP PAPKEN VARJABEDIAN D.D.
DIOCESAN LEGATE

3101 PARK CENTER DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22302

Telephone: (703) 671-6196
Residence: (703) 734-5738

J. Duggan

May 31, 1988

Ronald Reagan
President of the
United States of
America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

Over (3,000,000) three million people are famine stricken and are at immediate risk of starving to death in the Ethiopia - Eriterea areas.

Please direct the United States Agency for International Development to ensure that the cross border operation be used for large and sufficient quantities, so that international relief personnel can directly distribute aid to the starving population.

Best wishes and prayers
Very truly yours

Bishop Papken

Bishop Papken Varjabedian

aj

4651
585553

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 5, 1988

PY

0049

F0006-14
FG006-12

Dear Toby:

Thank you for your letter of June 17 concerning discussion of Ethiopia at the Moscow Summit.

It would be incorrect to say that this subject was given only cursory attention in Moscow. It was raised with senior members of the Central Committee staff, by Secretary Shultz with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, and personally by the President in one of the plenary meetings with General Secretary Gorbachev. Indeed, the President raised Ethiopia as the first item among a number of regional issues. Unfortunately, the Soviets both denied our description of the Ethiopian situation by saying that Mengistu was trying to be helpful and also claimed limited influence over the Ethiopian government. We were disappointed by this official Soviet response.

However, we have seen some progress recently. For example, UN workers and workers from other donor nations and organizations have been allowed back into the north. At least some of the responsibilities of the ICRC have been assumed by other private relief efforts.

As you know, we have objected very strongly to the denial of access to the north for our own workers, and we hope that our people may soon have the opportunity to re-enter the north. Increased access and an improved database are vital for us to assess firsthand what the current situation is.

We will continue to work until we are assured that the needs of innocent Ethiopians at risk of starvation are being met. I believe that the progress made so far is attributable to strong international pressure and to the efforts of concerned leaders like yourself who have kept public attention focused on this potential tragedy.

Sincerely,

Colin L. Powell

X
The Honorable Toby Roth
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

PS - I personally
RAISE WITH SOVIET
OFFICIALS AT EVERY
OPPORTUNITY.

NSC # 8804651

C

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

ACTION

June 29, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR COLIN L. POWELL

FROM: NELSON C. LEDSKY *NCL*SUBJECT: Letter from Congressman Roth on Ethiopia and
Moscow Summit*Nat Sec Advisor
has seen*

Congressman Toby Roth has sent you a letter concerning the discussion of Ethiopia at the Moscow Summit and asking about our current and future plans on Ethiopia (Tab B).

At Tab A is a suggested response to the Congressman.

DR/RR Dennis Ross and *AR/RR* Alison Fortier concur.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter to Congressman Roth at Tab A.

APPROVE

✓ NCL

DISAPPROVE _____

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Congressman Roth
Tab B Incoming letter

Prepared by Rudolf *RR* V. Perina/*AR* Alison Rosenberg

TOBY ROTH
EIGHTH DISTRICT
WISCONSIN

2352 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

PORT CAUCUS
RURAL CAUCUS
EXPORT TASK FORCE
MILITARY REFORM CAUCUS
TRAVEL AND TOURISM



United States
House of Representatives

June 17, 1988

4651 *icep*
F. St...
JUN 20 1988

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AND TRADE
ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISION,
REGULATION AND INSURANCE
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Lt. Gen. Colin L. Powell
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Colin:

As you know, I am deeply concerned about the deteriorating situation in Ethiopia where 2-3 million lives are immediately threatened. Several dozen colleagues joined me in appealing to the President to raise this subject with Mr. Gorbachev at the Moscow summit.

We are considerably disappointed that we have not yet received a detailed reply to our letter of May 20th describing the outcome of those talks. I am told that the subject was given only cursory attention by the President, with Mr. Gorbachev indicating that he had little control over events in Ethiopia. If this is in fact a correct description of the exchange between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev, it is very troubling. In our judgment a tremendous opportunity was missed by the failure to include the Ethiopian tragedy among the human rights concerns to be highlighted at Moscow.

We would very much appreciate receiving directly from you an assessment of the Moscow talks as it pertains to Ethiopia and to be apprised of current and future action items planned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Toby Roth". The signature is stylized and written over the printed name.

Toby Roth
Member of Congress

TR:jjw

88 JUN 22 P 3 : 20

Ethiopia's Auschwitz

Ethiopia's Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam may not be one of this century's pioneers in the art and science of tyranny, but in the 14 years since seizing power he clearly has become one of its most ardent practitioners. While Stalin and Hitler relied on gulags and gas chambers to wipe out populations they hated, the colonel is content to use plain old mass starvation. This spring the Marxist despot cut off food supplies to his country's rebellious northern provinces and kicked out all foreign relief workers. The resulting deaths may number as many as 3 million, according to Frederick Machmer, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

With the help of East German secret police and 3,000-4,000 Cuban troops and advisers, Col. Mengistu has converted his country into Moscow's most reliable African satellite. Soon after his coup in 1974, he collectivized agriculture, crushed the Coptic Church and created a state-run media so enamored with Marxist jargon that the government had to issue a dictionary so the audience could understand the broadcasts. Nearly 3 million Ethiopians are believed to have fled from the regime's terror since 1974, and an untold number have paid with their lives the price of the colonel's government by nightmare.

The toll from the regime's active campaign of terror may be matched by the carnage from its ban on foreign food aid. Resistance movements in the provinces of Eritrea and Tigre have simmered for more than two decades, and the colonel's decision to starve them and their supporters along with anyone else hapless enough to live in the rebellious areas is intended as his own final solution for the insurgencies. His order to cut off food two months ago followed rebel victories that seemingly caused his government to totter.

Until then, international relief efforts had made progress in caring for the victims of famine and war. More than 45 relief agencies had learned how to work together to transport, organize and distribute multina-

tional donations of food totalling 1.2 million tons pledged in the last six months.

The strategy of the relief was to avoid the catastrophic famine of 1984-85, when an estimated 1 million people starved. The plan was to hand out food at regional centers so recipients could carry it home themselves and plant seeds for the next season. That worked well for a time, but with successful rebel offensives sending government troops reeling, Col. Mengistu decided to get tough. Despite denunciation of the colonel's genocidal order by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Williamson at the United Nations and by President Reagan, the colonel has remained indifferent.

The key to stopping the Ethiopian holocaust lies in Moscow, which could force him to rescind his policy. Secretary of State George Shultz broached the issue with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in April, but received little more than non-committal shrugs in response. Nor was Ethiopia a large item on the Moscow summit's agenda.

The Soviets don't necessarily care what happens to the Ethiopians as long as Moscow can preserve its control over the strategically located nation that controls southern access to the Red Sea, yields entrance to sub-Saharan Africa and acts as a hinge around which two continents turn. In using forced famine to destroy political opposition, Col. Mengistu is following in the footsteps of communists from Stalin to Pol Pot, and glasnost apparently does not bar Mikhail Gorbachev from exploiting the genocide for his own geopolitical goals.

The United States has sent 250,000 metric tons of food to Ethiopia, and has taken the lead in protesting Col. Mengistu's brutality. The administration now must do all it can do to bring worldwide pressure to bear on Mr. Gorbachev, who alone seems capable of ending the genocidal atrocities of Africa's Hitler.

28

National Security Council
The White House

88 JUL 1 P 3: 29

System # _____
Package # 4651
DOCLOG 20 A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Perito	<u>1</u>	<u>RP</u>	<u>A</u>
Marybel Batjer	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	<u>2</u>	<u>pm</u>	<u>R</u>
John Negroponte	<u>3</u>	<u>JON</u>	_____
Colin Powell	<u>4</u>	<u>C</u>	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>3</u>	<u>207/5</u>	<u>W</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>	_____	<u>D</u>

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

cc: VP Baker Other _____

COMMENTS Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)



UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8804651
RECEIVED: 23 JUN 88 09

TO: ROTH, TOBY

FROM: POWELL

DOC DATE: 05 JUL 88
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: USSR ETHIOPIA
NCO

PERSONS: ROTH, T

SUBJECT: LTR RE SITUATION IN ETHIOPA & MOSCOW TALKS

ACTION: POWELL SGD LTR DUE DATE: 27 JUN 88 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: LEDSKY LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCIF: 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
FORTIER
LEDSKY
PERINA
ROSENBERG
ROSS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSRCB CLOSED BY: NSRCB DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8804651

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 LEDSKY
002 POWELL
003

Z 88062309 PREPARE MEMO FOR POWELL
Z 88070112 FOR SIGNATURE
X 88070609 POWELL SGD LTR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8804651
RECEIVED: 23 JUN 88 09

TO: POWELL

FROM: ROTH, TOBY

DOC DATE: 17 JUN 88
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: USSR
NCO

ETHIOPIA

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR RE SITUATION IN ETHIOPA & MOSCOW TALKS

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR POWELL

DUE DATE: 27 JUN 88

STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: LEDSKY

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
LEDSKY

FOR CONCURRENCE
~~COHEN~~
FORTIER

FOR INFO
BURNS
DANZANSKY
KELLY, B
PERINA
RODMAN

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

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