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Last Updated: 11/21/2023

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

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

Withdrawer

DLB 3/15/2010

File Folder CO049 (ETHIOPIA) (590000-END)

FOIA

S10-306

Box Number CO049

SYSTEMATIC

376

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
87518	LETTER	ISSAC GABRIEL TO THE PRESIDENT	3	12/9/1988	B1 B3
		<i>D 2/15/2023 M422</i>			B6

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]
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- 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.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

(D)

20049

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 01, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JACK FAXON

SUBJECT: WRITES SEEKING HELP FOR THE 12,000 REMAINING
JEWS IN ETHIOPIA

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KAE RAIRDIN		ORG	88/09/01		C88/09/21 WB
<i>DAS</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:		<i>R 88/09/21</i>		<i>ATTN: Nick Longworth - Referred by Kae Rairdin</i>
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

IA 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 * | | | * |
- *****

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.

please close Kae Ruidin out.

Sent to ~~Nick~~ Langworth
at State Dept. on 9/21, for
response.

M.M. 47700

THE SENATE



LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913

H. Rardin

JACK FAXON
15TH DISTRICT

August 30, 1988

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Reagan:

I am writing to solicit your help for the 12,000 remaining Jews in Ethiopia.

Although the Ethiopian Jewish Community numbered several hundred thousand at the beginning of this century, years of war, forced assimilation, and drought have greatly reduced their numbers. Today, the Marxist regime of Lt. Col. Mengistu denies its citizens their most basic human rights, such as the right to practice their religion and the right to emigrate.

While many Jews fled Ethiopia via Operation Moses in 1984, the doors to freedom are now closed. It is imperative that the Jews of Ethiopia be allowed to escape poverty and persecution and to rejoin their families in Israel.

I am calling upon you, as the President of the United States, to act on Concurrent Resolution 107 of 1984 "to use every appropriate forum, whether public or private, international or bilateral, to express the concern of the American people for the welfare of this religious minority and to be of assistance to them in their efforts to emigrate."

I thank you for your consideration in this most pressing matter.

Sincerely,

Jack Faxon
Jack Faxon
STATE SENATOR

JF/dlb

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

0049

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 23, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ISAAC SEIFE GABRIEL

SUBJECT: WRITER IS THE FORMER COMMANDER OF THE
IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN NAVY AND WRITES REGARDING
HIS VIEWS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA
BEFORE AND AFTER THE MARXIST TAKE-OVER

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
COLIN POWELL	ORG	88/11/23		C 88/12/17 TR
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
<i>DOS</i>	R	88/12/09 TR	A	88/12/16 TR
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____
MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

DATE: 11/25/88

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-123456)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: [REDACTED]

ACTION: [REDACTED]

REASON: [REDACTED]

DATE: [REDACTED]

BY: [REDACTED]

APPROVED: [REDACTED]

COPIES: [REDACTED]

88 NOV 25 10:55

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UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8835715

Date December 20, 1988

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

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Mr. Isaac Seife Gabriel

Date: November 15, 1988

Subject: Writer is the former commander of the Imperial Ethiopian Navy and writes regarding his views about the situation in Ethiopia before and after the Marxist take-over.

WH Referral Dated: December 9, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 605257

 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:

Joe Salpini
Director
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

December 16, 1988

Mr. Isaac Seife Gabriel
5427 West Pico Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90019

Dear Mr. Isaac:

President Reagan has asked me to reply to your letter of November 15 in which you note the friendship between the people of Ethiopia and the U.S. and request us to continue our humanitarian efforts.

The events of the past few years show that our disagreements with the Government of Ethiopia have not weakened our friendship with the people of Ethiopia. We have been the leader in two massive humanitarian relief efforts for Ethiopia--in 1985-86 and during this past year (October 1987-September 1988). In the course of the second relief effort, the U.S. provided almost \$120 million of humanitarian relief for an estimated 5 - 7 million at-risk people in the drought-afflicted areas of Ethiopia. Judged by the results--few deaths, no camps formed, and no mass movements of people in search of food--we conclude that the relief effort was a success. Good rains and the promise of a good harvest suggest that the famine is over--for now.

At the present time, legislation prohibiting development assistance to Ethiopia prohibits support for projects such as the health clinic in Jijiga. We look forward to the time when Ethiopia's policies are such that we might once again provide development assistance for the Ethiopian people.

Thank you for the assistance you provided American citizens in a difficult time at some risk to yourself, and thank you also for your kind words about my administration's role in maintaining world peace. There is still much to be done.

Sincerely,


John S. Davison
Director of East African
Affairs

8835715

THE WHITE HOUSE

'88 DEC-09 11:10 AM
OFFICE

REFERRAL

DECEMBER 9, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 605257

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED NOVEMBER 15, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. ISAAC SEIFE GABRIEL
5427 WEST PICO BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES CA 90019

SUBJECT: WRITER IS THE FORMER COMMANDER OF THE
IMPERIAL ETHIOPIAN NAVY AND WRITES REGARDING
HIS VIEWS ABOUT THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA
BEFORE AND AFTER THE MARXIST TAKE-OVER

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

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SYSTEMATIC

Box Number

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 049

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 09, 1989

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ISAAC SEIFE GABRIEL

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING HIS FLIGHT FROM THE
COMMUNIST REGIME IN ETHIOPIA AND OFFERS HIS
ASSISTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE
ITS EFFORTS IN HELPING THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
COLIN POWELL		ORG	89/01/09		C 89/01/10
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
99	Don	A	89/01/16		
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: SEE ID 605257

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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

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December 18, 1988

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

Dear Mr. President:

My name is Isaac Gabriel, former Commander of the Imperial Ethiopian Navy and a Felashin Jew from Jigjiga, Ethiopia. I wish to ask for your help, but before I do so, I want to explain the circumstances that has led up to the writing of this letter.

When the former Ethiopian government was overthrown by the Marxists, I became the NHQ Operation Commander. I passed vital information to U.S. Navy MAAG Assistant Captain C. Fend, not knowing that my telephone was wired. I was arrested and court martialled at MOND (Pentagon) and convicted for passing information that concerned the Ethiopian Navy and 18,000 enthusiastic Cuban Soldiers to foreign agents, but was spared by Colonel Tesemma Abaderash and forced to retire due to my Jewish heritage and my anti-Marxist political ideology.

Within a month, I secured a job as a Technical Consultant for Emerson Electric Company Electronics and Space Division of St. Louis, an American company doing business with the socialist government.

On May Day in 1977 at the Red Square, in a fit of rage, Col. Mengistu filled five bottles with red ink and each time he dropped a bottle, to spill symbolic blood, he denounced American Imperialism, the CIA, American Bureaucracy, the EPRP, and the Revisionists. Ethiopians fled this rage as quickly as they could run.

At that time, I had four American Field Technicians in my care in Addis Hilton. The American Ambassador called the leading Technician and informed him how Mengistu had given a license to Ethiopians to kill Americans and ordered them to leave immediately.

I had to convince the Navy Commander to send me a car with a Navy license plate to drive my men to the airport. We were stopped every 500 meters for inspection. Each time, I had to convince them that they were government contractors, but at no time did I mention that they were Americans.