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Last Updated: 11/06/2023

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

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

Withdrawer
DLB 4/27/2010

File Folder CO071 (IRAN) (575400-576799)

FOIA
S10-306

Box Number 93

SYSTEMATIC
532

| ID Doc Type | Document Description | No of Pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 90148 PAPER | RE: IRAN CASE SCENARIOS | 4 | ND | B1 |
| 90149 PAPER | RE: IRANIAN OPTIONS | 4 | ND | B1 |
| 90150 PAPER | RE: IRANIAN OPTIONS | 2 | 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.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

575478

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

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

Drawer

DLB 4/27/2010

File Folder

CO071 (IRAN) (575400-576799)

FOIA

S10-306
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93

532

| <i>ID</i> | <i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i> | <i>No of</i> <i>pages</i> | <i>Doc Date</i> | <i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i> |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 90148 | PAPER RE: IRAN CASE SCENARIOS | 4 | ND | B1 |

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

BB

Mr. Dubenstein

C.F.

57549455

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 20, 1987

MIS

C0071

TN005

F0003-01

C0001-07

C0083

F0006-12

Mr. President:

This is not an action paper; nor do the answers represent recommended policy. This paper is simply an effort to stimulate interagency thinking on contingencies.

You may find it useful to stimulate your thoughts as well.

Frank C. Carlucci

~~TOP SECRET~~ Attachment

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

11/2 4/27/10

Iranian Options

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
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|-----------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 90149 | PAPER RE: IRANIAN OPTIONS | 4 | ND | B1 |

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|-----------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 90150 | PAPER RE: IRANIAN OPTIONS | 2 | ND | B1 |

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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.

57677955
201 2007/

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8806224
RECEIVED: 25 AUG 88 18

TO: DAWSON, R

FROM: STEVENS

DOC DATE: 29 AUG 88
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: IRAN
USSR

AVIATION
KOREA SOUTH

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR TO MRS LEBOW RE FLIGHT 655 DOWNING & FLIGHT 007 DOWNED BY USSR

ACTION: DONLEY SGD MEMO DUE DATE: 29 AUG 88 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BURNS 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
BURNS
STEVENS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY ED DATE _____ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSCTF CLOSED BY: NSCTF DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
September 28, 1988

Biff Henley:

I recall now that Dottie told me that she forgot to xerox a copy of the signed letter that went out -- so attached is all we had. RR did personally sign the revised letter.

Thanks.

Kathy O.

P.S. I was already back in Wash. D.C. at the time.

Mrs Lenore D. Selow 186 Beach 25 St.

Far Rockaway N.Y. 11691

Dear Mrs. Selow

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter of July 18 but it has only just now made it's way through the bureaucracy & reached my desk.

First let me offer my heartfelt sympathy to you for the loss of your loved ones in the shooting down of the Korean airliner 007. ~~We regretted~~

[We have told the Soviet leaders the fact that the plane was off course was no excuse for their savage and inhumane attack. We have reason to believe their savage deed was ordered by lower echelon military leaders and ~~not the politbureau~~ ^{not the politbureau} in the Kremlin. But even so it was an unconscionable act of barbarism. And this has been told to those in top govt. positions.]

However with regard to the U.S.S. S tank and the tragic loss of life, ~~that~~ the missile was not fired by an ~~Iranian~~ Iranian plane. It was fired by an Iranian pilot and was a case of mistaken identity. They have acknowledged & apologized for the error.

Now as to the reparations we have offered in the Flight 855 shutdown ~~this~~ the Iranian govt. will ~~play a part~~ have no role whatsoever in the handling of the money. It is our intention to deal directly with the families of the victims and they are not all Iranians. The passengers who lost their lives were from a number of different countries. (over)

I think what we have proposed is the civilized thing to do and reveals the difference between us and the barbaric terrorism of some other countries.

With regard to retaliation may I point out we did retaliate when we had ~~no~~ proof that Quadagno was behind the terrorist killing. Our planes attacked Libya with bombs & missiles and let it be known this would be our response to any further terrorism.

Again my sympathy for your great loss,
Sincerely, R. M. [unclear]

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8806224

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 BURNS

Z 88082519 PREPARE MEMO STEVENS TO DAWSON

002 STEVENS

Z 88082614 FOR SIGNATURE

003

X 88082919 DONLEY SGD MEMO

UNCLASSIFIED

**National Security Council
The White House**

88:1 P 5:05

System # _____
 Package # 6224
 DOCLOG DP A/O _____

| | SEQUENCE TO | HAS SEEN | DISPOSITION |
|-----------------|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| Bob Perito | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Marybel Batjer | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Paul Stevens | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| John Negroponte | _____ | Deputy Natl Sec Advisor has seen | _____ |
| Colin Powell | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Paul Stevens | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Situation Room | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| West Wing Desk | <u>1</u> | <u>DP/1</u> | <u>N</u> |
| NSC Secretariat | <u>2</u> | _____ | <u>R-add to file</u> |

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

cc: VP Duberstein Other _____

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



UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8806224

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

| | | | | |
|-----|---------|---|----------|--------------------------------|
| 001 | BURNS | Z | 88082519 | PREPARE MEMO STEVENS TO DAWSON |
| 002 | STEVENS | Z | 88082614 | FOR SIGNATURE |
| 003 | | Z | 88082919 | DONLEY SGD MEMO |
| 003 | | X | 88090118 | ORIGINALS RETURNED TO NSC/S |

UNCLASSIFIED

unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE

SECURE FAX #

ADMIN FAX #

RECORD #

PAGES

DTG

RELEASED

7
320055Z
[Signature]

FROM/LOCATION

1. Sharon Wagner/The White House

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. Katherine Ladd/Santa Barbara

TOR!

INFORMATION ADDRESSES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1.

2.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

Attached, per your request, is the staffing of the letter to Mrs. Lebow re Flight 655.

unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

unclassified

sent 8:50am 8/29/84

CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

MODE

PAGES 7

IMMEDIATE

SECURE FAX # _____

DTG _____

PRIORITY

ADMIN FAX # _____

RELEASER _____

ROUTINE

RECORD # _____

FROM/LOCATION

1. Sharon Wagner/The White House

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. Katherine Ladd/Santa Barbara

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

INFORMATION ADDRESSEES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. _____

2. _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

Attached, per your request, is the staffing of the letter to Mrs. Lebow re Flight 655.

unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

From: NSDGR --CPUA Date and time 08/29/88 16:07:11
To: NSEMM --CPUA -UNCLASSIFIED- NSRMP --CPUA -UNCLASSIFIED-

NOTE FROM: DIANE ROSS
SUBJECT: Lebow ltr

Bob/Elaine:

A letter to Mrs. Lebow re: flight 655 shutdown was dacom'd out to you on Aug. 26. It was a Dawson Referral and required clearance by COB Aug. 30. However, Dawson's office called to say that they made a mistake and need clearance by COB today. The log number is #6224. Paul wanted Bob to concur on it before he signed it. Would appreciate it if you could let us know if you concur ASAP.

Thanks,
Diane

cc: NSDLM --CPUA -UNCLASSIFIED- NSJAM --CPUA -UNCLASSIFIED-

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

6224

1988 AUG 29 PM 7:09
August 29, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR RHETT DAWSON

FROM: *for* PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS *M. Donley*

SUBJECT: Response to Letter on Iran Air 655 Compensation

The NSC staff approves the attached draft response as amended.

Attachment

Tab A White House Staffing Memo dtd 8/30/88
w/Amended Draft



National Security Council
The White House

[Handwritten signature]

88 AUG 26 P 4: 15

System # _____
Package # 6224
DOCLOG DP A/O _____

| | SEQUENCE TO | HAS SEEN | DISPOSITION |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Bob Perito | <u>1</u> | _____ | <u>A</u> |
| Marybel Batjer | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Paul Stevens | <u>2</u> | <u>MD</u> | <u>A</u> |
| John Negroponte | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Colin Powell | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Paul Stevens | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Situation Room | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| West Wing Desk | <u>1a</u> | <u>CM/HC</u> | <u>bacon to RHP</u> |
| NSC Secretariat | <u>3</u> | <u>MC 8/29</u> | <u>D</u> |
| <u>NSC/IS</u> | <u>4</u> | _____ | <u>N</u> |

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

cc: VP Duberstein Other PSS

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

~~DOE COB - AUG 30~~ AUG. 29

~~bacon to RHP for concurrence prior to PSS signature.~~
pm done 8/29 (D&T)

JDN & RHP'S modifications are reflected in the attached.
Dsr

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

August 26, 1988

Paul,

Bob Perito called this morning to relay several thoughts that Amb. Negroponte had on the attached draft. I think I have captured them in our revisions -- you may wish to run the amended version past Bob.

Thanks.

Bill

*Done 8/29
MD 1845
Moneson
w/RMP*

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/25/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/30/88

SUBJECT: LETTER TO MRS. LEBOW RE: FLIGHT 655

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOBBS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DUBERSTEIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOOLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| POWELL <i>see changes</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | KRANOWITZ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MILLER - OMB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MASENG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OGLESBY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RANGE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BAUER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RISQUE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIBB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RYAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIPPEN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SPRINKEL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CULVAHOUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DAWSON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | TUTTLE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DONATELLI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please advise if you have any factual edits on the attached letter by close of business August 30th. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Document No. 576779
6224

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/25/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/30/88

SUBJECT: LETTER TO MRS. LEBOW RE: FLIGHT 655

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOBBS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DUBERSTEIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOOLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| POWELL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | KRANOWITZ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MILLER - OMB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MASENG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OGLESBY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RANGE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BAUER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RISQUE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIBB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RYAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIPPEN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SPRINKEL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CULVAHOUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DAWSON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | TUTTLE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DONATELLI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please advise if you have any factual edits on the attached letter by close of business August 30th. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/25/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/30/88

SUBJECT: LETTER TO MRS. LEBOW RE: FLIGHT 655

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOBBS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DUBERSTEIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOOLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| POWELL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | KRANOWITZ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MILLER - OMB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MASENG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OGLESBY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RANGE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BAUER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RISQUE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIBB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RYAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIPPEN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SPRINKEL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CULVAHOUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DAWSON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | TUTTLE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DONATELLI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please advise if you have any factual edits on the attached letter by close of business ~~August 30th~~. Thank you.
August 27th.

RESPONSE:

File

For clearance

UNCLASSIFIED
CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE

SECURE FAX # 33¹⁸⁹

ADMIN FAX # _____

RECORD # _____

PAGES 8

DTG 262201Z

RELEASER [Signature]

FROM/LOCATION

1. PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS / NSC / WHITE HOUSE

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. BOB PERITO FOR JOHN NEGROPONTE / NSC / LOS ANGELES

*Perito
see my
called
see below
thanks
JON*

INFORMATION ADDRES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

*Classified
Passed to Diane
Exec Sec 8/29*

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

LOG # 6224 - RESPONSE TO LTR ON IRAN AIR 655 COMPENSATION

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1988

Dear Mrs. Lebow:

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter of July 18, but it has only just now made its way through the bureaucracy and reached my desk.

First let me offer my heartfelt sympathy to you for the loss of your loved ones in the shooting down of the Korean Airliner 007. We have told the Soviet leaders the fact that the plane was off course was no excuse for this savage and inhumane attack. We have reason to believe their savage deed was ordered by lower echelon military leaders and not the Politburo in the Kremlin. But even so it was an unconscionable act of barbarism. And this has been told to those in top government positions.

However with regard to the U.S.S. Stark and the tragic loss of life, the missile was not fired by an Iranian plane. It was fired by an Iraqi pilot and was a case of mistaken identity.

IRAQ HAS

They have acknowledged and apologized for the error, AND OFFERED TO PAY COMPENSATION.

Now as to the ^{COMPENSATION} ~~reparations~~ we have offered in the Flight 655 shootdown, the Iranian government will have no role whatsoever in the handling of the money. It is our intention to deal directly with the families of the victims and they are not all Iranians. The passengers who lost their lives were from a number of different countries. I think what we have proposed is the civilized thing to do and reveals the difference between us and the barbaric terrorism of some other countries.

IF WE HAVE ALSO ACTED VERY FIRMLY IN RECENT YEARS IN RESPONSE TO TERRORISM @

~~With regard to retaliation we do point out we did retaliate~~
When we had proof that Quadaffi was behind a terrorist killing, WE ENFORCED OUR RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE AND TOOK STRONG MILITARY ACTION AGAINST HIM.
Our planes ~~attacked~~ Libya with bombs and missiles and let it be known this would be our response to any further terrorism.

Again my sympathy for your great loss.

Sincerely,

STAVCH

We have also retaliated against Iran for its mining attacks against our ~~naval~~ naval vessels operating in the Persian Gulf

THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF OUR RESOLVE

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE

SECURE FAX # 189

ADMIN FAX #

RECORD #

PAGES

8

DTG

262201Z

RELEASED

[Signature]

FROM/LOCATION

1. PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS / NSC / WHITE HOUSE

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. BOB PERITO FOR JOHN NEGROPONTE / NSC / LOS ANGELES

TOR: 262213Z

SITUATION ROOM
88 AUG 26 6:58
WHITE HOUSE

INFORMATION ADDRESSES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1.

2.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

LOG #

6224 - RESPONSE TO LTR ON IRAN AIR 655 COMPENSATION

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

26

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

August 26, 1988

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

FROM: WILLIAM J. BURNS *wB*

SUBJECT: Response to Letter on Iran Air 655 Compensation

The attached draft requires several revisions.

DL
Dan Levin and Randy *Kille* Beers concur.RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memo to Dawson at Tab I, concurring in the draft as amended.

Approve *MD* Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab I Stevens Memo to Dawson
Tab A White House Staffing Memo dtd 8/30/88
w/Revised Draft

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1988

Dear Mrs. Lebow:

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter of July 18, but it has only just now made its way through the bureaucracy and reached my desk.

First let me offer my heartfelt sympathy to you for the loss of your loved ones in the shooting down of the Korean Airliner 007. We have told the Soviet leaders the fact that the plane was off course was no excuse for this savage and inhumane attack. We have reason to believe their savage deed was ordered by lower echelon military leaders and not the Politburo in the Kremlin. But even so it was an unconscionable act of barbarism. And this has been told to those in top government positions.

However with regard to the U.S.S. Stark and the tragic loss of life, the missile was not fired by an Iranian plane. It was fired by an Iraqi pilot and was a case of mistaken identity.

IRAQ HAS

They have acknowledged and apologized for the error, AND OFFERED TO PAY COMPENSATION.

Now as to the ^{COMPENSATION} [reparations] we have offered in the Flight 655 shootdown, the Iranian government will have no role whatsoever in the handling of the money. It is our intention to deal directly with the families of the victims and they are not all Iranians. The passengers who lost their lives were from a number of different countries. I think what we have proposed is the civilized thing to do and reveals the difference between us and the barbaric terrorism of some other countries.

IF WE HAVE ALSO ACTED VERY FIRMLY IN RECENT YEARS IN RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

~~(With regard to retaliation may I point out we did retaliate)~~

When we had proof that Quadaffi was behind a terrorist killing, Our planes [attacked] Libya with bombs and missiles and let it be known this would be our response to any further terrorism. We here also retaliated against Iran for its ~~naval~~ attacks against our naval vessels operating in the Persian Gulf.

WE EXERCISED OUR RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE AND TOOK STRONG MILITARY ACTION AGAINST HIM.

Again my sympathy for your great loss.

Sincerely,

STRUCK

GDN'S changes in black ink

THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF OUR RESOLVE IN THE FACE OF IRANIAN PROVOCATIONS. INDEED, THE U.S. MILITARY HAS RESPONDED FORCEFULLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO IRANIAN AGGRESSION IN THE PERSIAN GULF ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OVER THE PAST YEAR.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REFERRAL

TIME STAMP

SYSTEM I LOG NUMBER: 6224

(FIRST DRAFT OF REMARKS)

00 AUG 25 PG: 45

ACTION OFFICER: Burns DUE: COB 8/30

- Prepare Memo Stevens to Dawson
- Prepare Memo Stevens to Dolan
- Prepare Memo Stevens to _____
- Prepare Memo _____ to _____

*** PUT RESPECTIVE STAFF OFFICER'S NAME IN MARGIN BESIDE CHANGES.

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

DUE: COB 8/30

*PHONE to action officer at ext. X 5194

| FYI | FYI | FYI |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addis | <input type="checkbox"/> Heiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastorino |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andricos | <input type="checkbox"/> Henhoeffer | <input type="checkbox"/> Perina |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Batjer | <input type="checkbox"/> Jameson | <input type="checkbox"/> Popadiuk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly, B | <input type="checkbox"/> Porter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brooks | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly, J | <input type="checkbox"/> Reger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burns | <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberling | <input type="checkbox"/> Rodman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brintnall | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leach | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rostow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childress | <input type="checkbox"/> Ledsky | <input type="checkbox"/> Saunders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobb | <input type="checkbox"/> Levin | <input type="checkbox"/> Seiber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cockell | <input type="checkbox"/> Lewis | <input type="checkbox"/> Snider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cohen | <input type="checkbox"/> Linhard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tahir-Kheli |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curtin | <input type="checkbox"/> Lowenkrow | <input type="checkbox"/> Tice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danzansky | <input type="checkbox"/> Mahley | <input type="checkbox"/> Tillman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dekok | <input type="checkbox"/> McCue | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donley | <input type="checkbox"/> Melby | <input type="checkbox"/> Wiant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ebner | <input type="checkbox"/> Menan | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farrar | <input type="checkbox"/> Miskel | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fortier | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oakley | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant | <input type="checkbox"/> Onate | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grimes | <input type="checkbox"/> Paal | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

- INFORMATION
- Stevens
 - Perito
 - Exec. Sec. Desk
 - Powell (advance)
 - Negroponte (advance)
 - Secretariat

Logged By mc

Return to Secretariat

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

57677955
20071

August 25, 1988

Dear Mrs. Lebow:

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter of July 18, but it has only just now made its way through the bureaucracy and reached my desk.

First let me offer my heartfelt sympathy to you for the loss of your loved ones in the shooting down of the Korean Airliner 007. We have told the Soviet leaders the fact that the plane was off course was no excuse for this savage and inhumane attack. We have reason to believe their savage deed was ordered by lower echelon military leaders and not the Politburo in the Kremlin. But even so it was an unconscionable act of barbarism. And this has been told to those in top government positions.

However with regard to the U.S.S. Stark and the tragic loss of life, the missile was not fired by an Iranian plane. It was fired by an Iraqi pilot and was a case of mistaken identity.

Iraq has They have acknowledged and apologized for the error, and offered to pay compensation.

Now as to the ^{compensation} reparations we have offered in the Flight 655 shootdown, the Iranian government will have no role whatsoever in the handling of the money. It is our intention to deal directly with the families of the victims and they are not all Iranians. The passengers who lost their lives were from a number of different countries. I think what we have proposed is the civilized thing to do and reveals the difference between us and the barbaric terrorism of some other countries.

stuck - With regard to retaliation may I point out ~~We did retaliate~~ when we had proof that Quadaffi was behind a terrorist killing, ~~and~~ ^{we} ~~retaliated~~ ^{we} ~~our~~ ^{our} planes attacked Libya with bombs and missiles and let it be known this would be our response to any further terrorism.

Again my sympathy for your great loss.

Sincerely,

Letter to Mrs Lebow Re Flight 655

our right to self-defense and take strong military action against them.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/25/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/30/88

SUBJECT: LETTER TO MRS. LEBOW RE: FLIGHT 655

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOBBS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DUBERSTEIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOOLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| POWELL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | KRANOWITZ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MILLER - OMB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MASENG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OGLESBY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RANGE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BAUER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RISQUE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIBB | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RYAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CRIPPEN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SPRINKEL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CULVAHOUSE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TUCK | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DAWSON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | TUTTLE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DONATELLI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please advise if you have any factual edits on the attached letter by close of business August 30th. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Rhett Dawson
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1988

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Again my sympathy for your great loss.

Sincerely,

Lenore D. Lebow
186 Beach 25 Street
Far Rockaway, N.Y. 11691

July 18, 1988

Mr. President:

How dare you offer to pay reparation to the Iranian people.

The downing of Flight 655 was a terrible tragic accident, but that plane was in the direct line of fire thru no fault of the U.S. Navy.

My daughter and my 8 month old grandson were passengers on KAL 007 that the Russians shot down. You yourself said that they knew they were shooting a civilian airliner. That plane was not in a war zone. The Russians did not offer us reparation, or even an apology. They didn't even allow the U.S. to look for bodies. In a very short time you forgot what they did - a slap on the wrist and all was forgiven. What a disgrace to us who lost our loved ones at the hands of those Russian murderers.

By your standards it's O.K. for Iran to kidnap American people and hold them hostage for years, its O.K. for them to commit acts of terrorism against Americans all over the world. Its O.K. for them to attack the U.S.S. Stark and kill 37 Americans. This goes on and on.

Its time you stopped apologizing and start retaliating.

You are a great disappointment to me Mr. President. I
no longer vote because of you and your administration.

Lenore D. Lebow

Lenore Lebow
186 Beach 25 Street
Far Rockaway, New York 11691

50 ✓

Lenore D. Lebow
186 Beach 25 St.
Far Rockaway, N.Y. 11691

CAD.
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Leonore D. Lebow

2 2

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