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**WHORM Subject File Code:** CO071

(Countries: Iran)

**Case file Number(s):** 598000-603999

**Box Number:** 93

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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) (598000-603999)

**FOIA**

S10-306

**Box Number** 93

SYSTEMATIC

536

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
90168	LETTER	CIRIACO DE MITA TO REAGAN - STATE DEPT. TRANSLATION <b>R 5/19/2023 NSC/DEPT. OF STATE WAIVERS</b>	3	7/11/1988	B1
90169	LETTER	CIRIACO DE MITA TO REAGAN - IN ITALIAN <b>R 5/19/2023 NSC/DEPT. OF STATE WAIVERS</b>	2	7/11/1988	B1
90170	LETTER	DE MITA TO REAGAN - UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION <b>R 5/19/2023 NSC/DEPT. OF STATE WAIVERS</b>	2	7/11/1988	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.

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

598572  
3100  
00071 5199  
00015  
S/S 8821449

Date August 1, 1988

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

FG006-12

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan  
From: Ciriaco De Mita  
Date: 7/11/88

TRJ

Subject: Letter regarding airbus tragedy and Resolution 598

WH Referral Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
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.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- X 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:

Mr. de Mita's letter is a response to President Reagan's letter of July 9. No response is necessary.

*[Signature]*  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

NSA # 8805199

**UNCLASSIFIED**

UNCLASSIFIED

88 AUG 2 18:48

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 13, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
National Security Council Staff

SUBJECT: Alerting NSCS on Presidential  
Correspondence

Enclosed is the original of a letter to President Reagan from Ciriaco de Mita, Pres. of the Council of Mins. of Italy which is transmitted for your information.

This correspondence was received in the Information Management Section of the Executive Secretariat on July 13, 1988. A copy has been assigned to the appropriate bureau for action.

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "S. McElhany".

Director, S/S-I  
Information Management Section  
Executive Secretariat  
647-3836

WHITE HOUSE

88 JUL 14

A.7: 00

88 JUL 14 12: 47

SITUATION ROOM

United States Department of State

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

July 13, 1988



MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
National Security Council Staff

SUBJECT: Alerting NSCS on Presidential  
Correspondence

Enclosed is the original of a letter to President Reagan from Ciriaco de Mita, Pres. of the Council of Mins. of Italy which is transmitted for your information.

This correspondence was received in the Information Management Section of the Executive Secretariat on July 13, 1988. A copy has been assigned to the appropriate bureau for action.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. McElhany".

Director, S/S-I  
Information Management Section  
Executive Secretariat  
647-3836

90148

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NSC/State Waivers  
BY dm NARA DATE 5/19/2023

(TRANSLATION)

LS NO. 126585  
CT/BL  
Italian

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

July 11, 1988

Dear Ronald,

In reply to your letter of July 9th, concerning the position the U.S. is taking in the debate on the downing of the Iranian Airbus which will take place in the Security Council starting July 12th, I would like to thank you for your solicitude in informing me of the line that your Government intends to follow in this circumstance.

For my part, I consider it important that the Islamic Republic of Iran, for the first time in the history of its relations with the Security Council in recent years, has decided to take its case to the highest organ of the U.N. to examine a question which constitutes, as you yourself have said, a human tragedy of terrible proportions.

Foreign Minister Andreotti has informed Secretary of State Shultz of what transpired in the conversation that he had

H.E. Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

in the evening of July 8th with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Larijani. Andreotti reported on the indications of movement that appeared in Teheran's position and on some ideas mentioned to him, which deserve to be thoroughly examined, both as concerns the aspects directly related to the Security Council debate (bearing in mind that Larijani made frequent references to the adoption of a resolution at the end of next Tuesday's debate) and as regards the indications pertaining to the settlement of the relationship with Iran.

In this connection I feel that the debate should be oriented in the most constructive direction possible, which can find the unanimous consent of the Security Council, but according particular attention to the intention of immediately reviving the negotiating process for a settlement of the conflict, and to keeping a productive relationship between Iran and the Security Council going, not least in view of the delicate balances of that country, in order to foster the tendencies which are currently evolving to the full extent possible.

In this regard, I am of the opinion that the debate in the Security Council should bring out the necessity to consider the implementation of Resolution 598 a matter of the highest

priority, strenghtening the value and the appeal of the Resolution not only by giving new impetus to the U.N. Secretary General's plan of implementation, but also by accepting his proposals of June 17th and intensifying the negotiations.

With my warmest regards.

Ciriaco De Mita.

*Ambasciata d' Italia  
Washington*

*L' Ambasciatore*

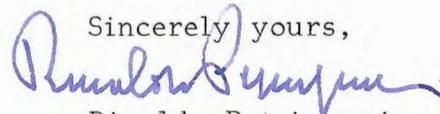
July 11, 1988

*Dear Mr. President,*

I have the honor to convey to you the text of the message addressed to you by the the President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Italy, the Honorable Ciriaco De Mita, along with an unofficial translation of the text.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, Mr President, the assurances of my greatest esteem and highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Rinaldo Petrihiani

---

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Copy to Mrs Borg  
8821449

*Ambasciata d' Italia  
Washington*

*L' Ambasciatore*

July 11, 1988

I have the honor to convey to you the text of the message addressed to you by the the President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Italy, the Honorable Ciriaco De Mita, along with an unofficial translation of the text.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, Mr President, the assurances of my greatest esteem and highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Rinaldo Petrignani

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.



*Embassy of Italy*  
 1601 Fuller St. N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20009

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority NSA/State Waivers  
 BY dr NARA DATE 5/17/2023

July 11, 1988

TEXT OF THE MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY.

"Caro Ronald,

rispondo alla tua lettera del 9 c.m., relativa alla posizione americana in merito al dibattito sull'abbattimento dell'Airbus iraniano, che si svolgera' in Consiglio di Sicurezza a partire dal 12 luglio, e ti ringrazio per la tempestivita' nell'informarmi sulla linea che il tuo Governo intende seguire sulla circostanza.

Da parte mia ritengo importante il fatto che la Repubblica Islamica dell'Iran, per la prima volta nella storia dei suoi rapporti con il Consiglio di Sicurezza in questi anni, abbia deciso di adire il massimo organo societario per esaminare una questione che costituisce, come tu stesso dici, una tragedia umana di terribili proporzioni.

Il Ministro Andreotti ha informato il Segretario di Stato Shultz su quanto e' emerso nel colloquio avuto la sera dell'8 c.m. con il Vice Ministro degli Esteri iraniano, Larijani. Andreotti ha riferito sui sintomi di movimento delineatisi nella posizione di Teheran e su alcune idee prospettategli, che meritano di essere approfondite sia per gli aspetti direttamente connessi al dibattito in Consiglio di Sicurezza (tenendo presente che Larijani ha fatto spesso riferimento all'adozione di una risoluzione a conclusione del dibattito di martedi' p.v.) e sia per i risvolti attinenti alla composizione del rapporto con l'Iran.

In questo senso ritengo che il dibattito vada orientato nella direzione piu' costruttiva possibile, che trovi l'unanime consenso del

./.

5

2.

Consiglio di Sicurezza, ma con particolare attenzione all'intento di rianimare subito il processo negoziale per una soluzione del conflitto e di tenere presente l'obiettivo di mantenere aperto e fruttuoso il rapporto fra il Consiglio di Sicurezza e l'Iran, anche in vista dei delicati equilibri interni di quel paese, favorendo per quanto possibile le tendenze in corso di evoluzione.

In questa ottica sono dell'avviso che il dibattito in Consiglio di Sicurezza debba fare emergere la necessita' di considerare l'applicazione della Risoluzione 598 come prioritaria della massima importanza, rafforzandone il valore e l'appello non solo con un rilancio del piano di applicazione del Segretario Generale delle Nazioni Unite, ma anche accettandone le proposte del 17 giugno ed intensificandone il negoziato.

Con i miei piu' cordiali saluti,

Ciriaco De Mita".



*Embassy of Italy*  
 1601 Fuller St. N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20009

**DECLASSIFIED**  
 Authority NSC/State Waivers  
 BY dh NARA DATE 5/19/2023

July 11, 1988

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY.

"Dear Ronald,

I reply to your letter of the 9th instant, concerning the U.S. position with regard to the debate on the downing of the Iranian Airbus, which will take place in the Security Council starting July 12th, and I thank you for your solicitude in informing me of the line that your Government intends to follow in this circumstance.

For my part, I consider important the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran, for the first time in the history of its relations with the Security Council in these years, has decided to take its case to the highest organ of the U.N. to examine a question which constitutes, as you yourself have said, a human tragedy of terrible proportions.

Minister Andreotti has informed Secretary of State Shultz of what transpired in the conversation that he had on the evening of July 8th with the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, Larijani. Andreotti reported on the symptoms of movement that appeared in the position of Teheran and on certain ideas which were put to him, which deserve to be thoroughly examined, both as concerns the aspects directly related to the Security Council debate (bearing in mind that Larijani made frequent references to the adoption of a resolution at the end of next Tuesday's debate) and as regards the indications pertaining to the settlement of the relationship with Iran.

In this connection, I feel that the debate should be oriented in the most constructive direction that is possible, which can find the

unanimous consent of the Security Council, both affording particular attention to the intention of immediately reviving the negotiating process for a settlement of the conflict and bearing in mind the objective of keeping the relationship between Iran and the Security Council open and fruitful: the latter also in consideration of the delicate domestic balances of that country, in order to foster to the full extent possible the tendencies which are currently evolving.

In this regard, I am of the opinion that the debate in the Security Council should bring out the necessity to consider the implementation of Resolution 598 a matter of the most important priority, strengthening the value and the appeal of the Resolution not only by giving new impetus to the U.N. Secretary General's plan of implementation, but also by accepting his proposals of June 17th and intensifying the negotiations.

With my warmest regards.

Ciriaco De Mita".

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8805199  
RECEIVED: 14 JUL 88 08

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: DE MITA, CIRIACO

DOC DATE: 11 JUL 88  
SOURCE REF: 8821449

KEYWORDS: ITALY  
UN

IRAN  
HS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: DE MITA RESPONSE RE PRES MSG / IRANIAN AIRBUS & UN SECURITY  
COUN DEBATE

ACTION: PENDING STATE RECOM DUE DATE: 18 JUL 88 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: STATE LOGREF: 8805295

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  
STATE

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
COBB  
CURTIN  
KELLY, B  
LEDSKY  
PERITO  
RODMAN  
ROSTOW  
STEVENS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSWJR CLOSED BY: DOC 1 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8805199

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CA: ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 STATE  
004  
004

Z 88071409 PENDING STATE RECOM  
Z 88080213 RECD STATE MEMO  
X 88080213 NO RESPONSE REQUIRED PER STATE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8805199  
RECEIVED: 14 JUL 88 08

TO: STEVENS

FROM: LEVITSKY, M

DOC DATE: 01 AUG 88  
SOURCE REF: 8821449

KEYWORDS: ITALY  
UN

IRAN  
HS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: DE MITA RESPONSE RE PRES MSG / IRANIAN AIRBUS & UN SECURITY  
COUN DEBATE

ACTION: NO RESPONSE REQUIRED PER STATE      DUE DATE: 18 JUL 88      STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: STATE

LOGREF: 8805295

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

COBB  
CURTIN  
KELLY, B  
LEDSKY  
RODMAN  
ROSTOW  
STEVENS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSWJR

CLOSED BY: NSEF

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

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00071

6088

FG017

NS

FG 006-12

September 2, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR RONALD K. PETERSON

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS *PS*

SUBJECT: Justice Draft Report on HCR-330 Report re:  
Not Compensating Iran for Downing of  
Flight 655

The NSC staff opposes Justice's draft report on HConRes 330, and believes that Justice should rewrite its report to oppose adoption of the resolution.

HConRes 330 stipulates that the US should not enter into negotiations with the Government of Iran on compensation for the downing of flight 655 until Iran enters into negotiations to compensate for attacks on civilian shipping and United States Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf. This approach contradicts President Reagan's publicly stated intention to provide ex gratia payments to the victims' families. HConRes 330 also implies that the USG would enter into negotiations with the Government of Iran on the matter of compensation, which the President has also explicitly rejected. The NSC staff therefore requests that Justice rewrite its report to oppose HConRes 330, using the rationale above as guidance.

NSC # 8806088

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

September 1, 1988

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

FROM: WILLIAM J. BURNS *WJB*

SUBJECT: Justice Draft Report on HCR-330 Report re:  
Not Compensating Iran for Downing of  
Flight 655

Justice has prepared a draft report on HConRes 330, which provides that the United States should not undertake negotiations to compensate the Government of Iran or any party in Iran until the Government of Iran begins to negotiate to compensate for attacks on civilian shipping and US Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf.

Justice has noted in its draft report that since the Resolution simply expresses the sense of Congress, it has no objection to the Resolution. The Resolution, though, contradicts the President's publicly stated intention to make ex gratia payments to the victims' families. The Resolution also implies that the USG would enter into negotiations with the Government of Iran on the matter, when in fact we have already said we would not do so. State has advised us that they have similar objections to HConRes 330; a draft of State's report to Fascell is attached.

We therefore recommend that the NSC staff oppose the Justice draft, and request that Justice oppose HConRes 330.

Bill Cackell, Mike Andricos, and Dan Levin concur. *WJB* *MA* *DL*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memo at Tab II to Ronald Peterson opposing the Justice report, and requesting that Justice oppose HConRes 330.

Prepared by: Stephen E. Benko

Attachments

Tab I Stevens Memo to Peterson  
Tab II Peterson Memo dtd 8/18/88



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503  
August 18, 1988

**SPECIAL**

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

6088

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer -  
Department of State  
Department of Defense  
National Security Council  
Department of the Treasury

SUBJECT: Justice draft report on H.Con.Res. 330, providing that the United States should not undertake negotiations to compensate the government of Iran or any party in Iran in connection with the shooting down of Iran Air Flight 655 until the Government of Iran undertakes negotiations to compensate for attacks by Iranian military forces on civilian shipping and United States Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf.

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 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1988.

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: J. Eisenhower

**SPECIAL**



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

---

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

Honorable Dante B. Fascell  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice on H.Con.Res. 330, providing that the United States should not undertake negotiations to compensate the government of Iran or any party in Iran in connection with the shooting down of Iran Air Flight 655 until the Government of Iran undertakes negotiations to compensate for attacks by Iranian military forces on civilian shipping and United States Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf.

Because this Concurrent Resolution would simply express the sense of the Congress, the Department has no constitutional objection to H.Con.Res. 330.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised this Department that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Boyd  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on H. Con. Res. 330 providing that the U.S. should not undertake negotiations to compensate Iran in connection with the shooting down of Iran Air flight 655 until the Government of Iran undertakes negotiations to compensate for attacks by Iranian military forces on civilian shipping and U.S. armed forces in the Persian Gulf.

The Department of State wishes to express its opposition to this resolution.

On July 11, 1988, President Reagan announced his decision to make ex gratia payments to families of the victims of the Iran Air shootdown. In announcing the decision, the President indicated that he was prompted by humanitarian concerns. Because the Vincennes acted in justifiable self-defense, the United States Government is not legally obligated to make any payments nor can the decision on compensation be construed as a concession of such liability.

Details of the compensation plan have yet to be determined. However, President Reagan has made clear that decisions on compensation and payments will be made without the involvement of the Government of Iran and that every possible precaution will be taken to ensure that payments to Iranian nationals are not transferred to, or confiscated by, the Government of Iran.

Consequently, the Administration does not anticipate conducting any "negotiations" with the Government of Iran as contemplated by H. Con. Res 330.

In offering to extend ex gratia compensation, the United States has stressed the humanitarian and voluntary nature of the compensation and has not made payment of compensation to the families contingent on changes of behavior by the Iranian Government, in part because this would suggest that we are prepared to reward such changes by paying money to the Iranian Government. It should also be noted that a number of nationals from other countries were killed in the accident.

The Honorable  
Dante B. Fascell,  
House of Representatives.

Moreover, ex gratia payment of this type is consistent with the past practice of the United States and of other nations and is particularly appropriate where a civilian airliner has been shot down. The only instances in which a nation responsible for shooting down a civilian airliner has refused to pay compensation involve the Soviet Union.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to submission of this report.

Sincerely,

William M. Thornberry  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Drafted: NEA/NGA:RWClarke  
Wang 0951N 8/15/88  
Cleared: L/CID:SMurphy  
L/NEA:JArbogast  
NEA:APBurleigh  
S/CT:TMiller

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on H. Con. Res. 334 and 337 expressing the sense of the Congress that the U.S. should not make reparations on account of the Iran Air flight 655 disaster before American hostages being held in Lebanon are released.

The Department of State wishes to express its opposition to this resolution.

On July 11, 1988 President Reagan announced his decision to make ex gratia payments to families of the victims of the Iran Air shootdown. In making the decision, the President indicated that he was prompted by humanitarian concerns. Because the Vincennes acted in justifiable self-defense, the United States Government is not legally obligated to make any payments nor can the decision on compensation be construed as a concession of such liability.

Details of the compensation plan have yet to be determined. However, President Reagan has made clear that decisions on compensation and payments will be made without the involvement of the Government of Iran and that every possible precaution will be taken to ensure that payments to Iranian nationals are not transferred to, or confiscated by, the Government of Iran. It should also be noted that a number of nationals from other countries were killed in the accident.

In offering to extend ex gratia compensation, the United States has stressed the humanitarian and voluntary nature of the compensation and has not made payment of compensation to the families contingent on changes of behavior by the Iranian Government, in part because this would suggest that we are prepared to reward such changes by paying money to the Iranian Government. To make payment contingent on the release of our own hostages would reward terrorism and hostage-taking.

Moreover, ex gratia payment of this type by the United States is consistent with the past practice of the United States and of other nations and is particularly appropriate where a civilian airliner has been shot down. The only instances in which a nation responsible for shooting down a civilian airliner has refused to pay compensation involve the Soviet Union.

The Honorable  
Dante B. Fascell,  
House of Representatives.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to submission of this report.

Sincerely,

William M. Thornberry  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

National Security Council  
The White House

CM

System # I  
Package # 1058  
DOCLOG CM A/O

88 SEP 2 P 5: 33

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Perito	<u>1</u>	<u>RP</u>	<u>A</u>
Marybel Batjer			
Paul Stevens	<u>2</u>	<u>✓</u>	
John Negroponte			
Colin Powell			
Paul Stevens			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>3</u>		<u>DN</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>		<u>D</u>

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

cc: VP    Duberstein    Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS    Should be seen by: 9/12  
(Date/Time)

OMB referral

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8806088  
RECEIVED: 19 AUG 88 13

TO: STEVENS

FROM: PETERSON, R

DOC DATE: 18 AUG 88  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: IRAN  
          PERSIAN GULF

AVIATION  
LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: JUSTICE DRAFT RPT ON HCR-330 RE NOT COMPENSATING IRAN FOR DOWNING OF  
          FLIGHT 655

ACTION: MEMO STEVENS TO PETERSON                      DUE DATE: 23 AUG 88                      STATUS: S

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

BURNS

FOR CONCURRENCE

COCKELL  
DANZANSKY  
FORTIER  
ROSTOW  
TAHIR-KHELI

FOR INFO

KELLY, B  
OAKLEY  
ROSS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSCTF

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8806088

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 BURNS  
002 STEVENS  
003

Z 88081913 MEMO STEVENS TO PETERSON  
Z 88090216 FOR SIGNATURE  
X 88090219 PERITO SGD MEMO





RO

*Handwritten notes:*  
Held onto  
presumably  
back from  
RR

*Ladd*

601518  
4000  
C0071  
FI001-02  
PR005-02  
IV088  
ST033

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
August 29, 1988  
Santa Barbara

**PY**  
*LY Camp*

*Strong  
distaste for*

Dear Ms. Lyon:

Thank you for writing and giving me an opportunity to respond with regard to the proposed payment to families of those killed in the shootdown of Iran Air Flight 655.

We have made it very clear such money will not be paid through the government of Iran. It must go directly to the families of the victims. I'm sure we both share a feeling of ~~regret~~ towards the ~~barbaric~~ government of Iran. Let me assure you, I'll do nothing that could be used to benefit that regime *under present circumstances.*

With regard to the main purpose of your letter, you and all the others who lost loved ones in that terrible disaster in Lebanon have my deepest sympathy. Indeed, I share your grief although I wouldn't presume that I could feel the depth of your loss.

With regard to the October 23rd vigil, I have asked those here who are responsible for my schedule to see if there is any possibility of joining you. Thank you for letting me know.

Sincerely,

Ms. Elizabeth M. Lyon  
1617 Lia Drive  
Milton, Florida 32570

*militarized behavior  
of the*

**HANDWRITING FILE**

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.

Katherine Ladd

Letter to Mrs Neam  
is approved without  
change.

Letter to Ms Lyon,  
with changes, is attached

Bot  
Pinto

8/29

Bob Penito —

Would you have this  
reviewed for factual problems  
re Iran issue, and let me  
know any edits by tomorrow  
morning. Thanks.

Katherine

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 29, 1988

Santa Barbara

Dear Ms. Lyon:

Thank you for writing and giving me an opportunity to respond with regard to the proposed payment to families of those killed in the shootdown of Iran Air Flight 655.

We have made it very clear such money will not be paid through the government of Iran. It must go directly to the families of the victims. I'm sure we both share a feeling of ~~revulsion~~ <sup>strong distaste</sup> towards the ~~barbaric~~ government of Iran. Let me assure you, I'll do nothing that could be used to benefit that regime <sup>under present circumstances.</sup>

*un civilized behavior of the*  
With regard to the main purpose of your letter, you and all the others who lost loved ones in that terrible disaster in Lebanon have my deepest sympathy. Indeed, I share your grief although I wouldn't presume that I could feel the depth of your loss.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Elizabeth M. Lyon  
1617 Lia Drive  
Milton, Florida 32570

To Ms. Elizabeth M. Lyon 1617 Lia Dr.  
Milton Fla. 32570

Dear Ms. Lyon

I thank you for writing & giving me an opportunity to respond with regard to the proposed payment to families of ~~the victims~~ those killed in the shootdown of the 655.

We have made it very clear such money will not be paid through the govt. of Iran. It must go directly to the families of the victims. I'm sure we both share a feeling of revulsion toward the barbaric govt. of Iran. Let me assure you I'll do nothing that could be used to benefit that regime.

With ~~the~~ regard to the main purpose of your letter you and all the others who lost loved ones in that terrible disaster in Lebanon have my deepest sympathy. Indeed I share your grief although I wouldn't presume that I could feel the depth of your loss.

With regard to the Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> vigil I have asked those here who are responsible for my schedule to see if there is any way I can join you. I thank you for letting me know.

~~Again~~ Sincerely RR

Kathy let the proper people know to see what is possible on Oct. 23.

RR

July 12, 1988

Mr. President,

I am writing to you concerning the payment to the Iranian families who were lost when we shot back.

Mr. President, as much sympathy as I have for the innocent killed, you cannot and should not pay any money. If you do, then whenever they feel like it they can pull that again to demand more money.

The main reason for this letter is that, my brother, Paul D. Lyon, Jr., was one of the 241 Marines killed in the Beirut bombing. We, the families did not receive any requisition from the terrorist countries, not even an apology. That's what makes it hurt so bad, a pain that will never go away. As you may know, this October 23, 1988 will mark 5 years since the bombing.

Please acknowledge that, Sir. We will be having a morning vigil at Camp Le Jeune, North Carolina. Please try to attend.  
Help us to ease our pains. Thank you for your time, please  
respond.

Sincerely,

/s/ Elizabeth M. Lyon

1617 Lia Dr.

Milton, Florida 32570



EA

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth  
M.  
Lyon

1617 CIA Dr.  
Milton, Fl.  
32570

10/23

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Milton Fla. 32570

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Brenda  
B-  
Lpt's  
talk  
Ken D.

July 12, 1988

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