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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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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.

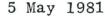
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

Comments:

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D. C. 20350





The Honorable Denis Lawrence Massachusetts Legislature 206 Allen Street New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Thank you for your letter of April 8 to President Reagan concerning the Navy position on foreign procurement of submarines for the United States.

As much as he would like to, the President cannot reply personally to every communication he receives. Therefore, he has asked the departments and agencies of the Federal Government to reply on his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or special authority under the law. For this reason, your correspondence was forwarded to the Department of Defense.

Your interest and concern in this matter are understood and appreciated. The Reagan Administration is committed to a major, sustained increase in the produrement of Naval vessels. As you are aware, past fluctuations in Navy shipbuilding requirements have caused many shippards to ceare bidding for Navy contracts for new construction and, thus, the required shipbuilding capacity in the United States has been reduced. In order to meet this administration's commitment to a larger Navy, we are exploring all avenues available to increase the size of our Mavy in the near term. The Navy consideration of foreign producement reflects our intention to leave no stone unturned in our examination of alternatives which best serve the needs of the country.

I trust I have emplained the Mavy's position in this matter.

Sincerely,

John Lehman

Secretary of the Navy

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

THEISECRETARY OF DEFENSE

APRIL 21, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID:

020038

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 8, 1981

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

THE HONORABLE DENIS LAWRENCE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS COMTE ON POST AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT

206 ALLEN STREET NEW BEDFORD MA 02740

SUBJECT: OPPOSES THE STATEMENT MADE BY NAVY SECRETARY

JOHN LEHMAN ON APR 6 81 RELATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING THE PURCHASING OF SUBMARINES FROM FOREIGN

COUNTRIES COUNTRIES-

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

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

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



REP. DENIS LAWRENCE 13TH BRISTOL DISTRICT 206 ALLEN STREET NEW BEDFORD, MA. 02740 TEL. HOME: 996-2114 OFFICE: 727-2560

THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS Committee on Post Audit and Oversight STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, MA. 02133

COMMITTEES ON

POST AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT

COMMERCE AND LABOR

STATE HOUSE OFFICE

ROOM 146

BOSTON, MA, 02133

April 8, 1981

020038

President Ronald Reagan White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

First of all I express to you my strongest expression of wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

The second purpose of this letter is to comment on the statement made by Navy Secretary John Lehman on April 6, relative to the United States seriously considering the purchasing of submarines from foreign countries.

I would like to be recorded as strongly opposed to such an idea, especially as there is such a high unemployment rate in the ship building industry in the United States.

In my opinion, to allow any off shore procurment of submarines would not be in the best interest of the American working people.

I urge you to have Navy Secretary Lehman re-asses his position and direct any such procurement to those ship building companies in the United States.

Sincerely,

Denis Lawrence

State Representative

copies sent to C. Faller

11-21-83