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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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July 13, 1984

Dear Editor:

David Silverberg's suggestion in the June 21, 1984 Washington Jewish Week that President Reagan refused to accept Fasag Peris' gift of a photo album of Jerusalem scenes for fear of appearing to endorse the proposed move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem is both foolish and inaccurate. Mr. Peris, an excellent Iraq-born photographer, presented an album of his photographs to me on April 9, 1984, which I accepted on behalf of the President. In 1982, Peris presented a similar album of Sinai photographs to my predecessor, Michael Gale. Both albums were much appreciated by the White House.

In 1982 and again this year Peris wished to present his photos personally to the President. As with the hundreds of gifts offered the White House each year, the press of government business precluded a private audience with the President. The suggestion that Peris' inability to secure a private audience has any connection with the Jerusalem bill is completely unfounded.

Sincerely,

Marshall Breger
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

The Editor
Washington Jewish Week
1317 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

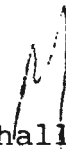
October 15, 1984

Dear Jerry:

Enclosed is a draft letter to The Washington Jewish Week regarding David Silverberg's column. Needless to say, you should feel free to make any changes you desire.

I would be grateful if you could the same letter the other Jewish newspapers carrying the Silverberg article (e.g., The Philadelphia Jewish Exponent). I am certain that The Washington Jewish Week will provide you with the names of such papers.

Sincerely,



Marshall Breger
Special Assistant to the
President for Public Liaison

Mr. Jerry Dick
Chairman
Washington UJA Mission Program
1200 Eighteenth Street, N.W.
Suite 610
Washington, D.C. 20036

While I was pleased that the UJA Hineni III Mission was covered in David Silverberg's Word from Washington column in The Washington Jewish Week of October 5, 1984, I was disturbed by several inaccuracies.

I was present at both White House briefings organized by Marshall Breger of the White House Office of Public Liaison. Speakers included Kenneth Dam, Deputy Secretary of State, Donald T. Regan, Secretary of the Treasury, Caspar W. Weinberger, Secretary of Defense, Assistant Attorney General, Theodore B. Olson, Lionel Olmer, Under Secretary of International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

Mr. Breger also briefed us on the Administration's position on church-state issues and we are grateful to the White House and to Mr. Breger for developing such a full program.

All of the briefings were of a high quality, and the discussion kept us riveted to our chairs.

Due to a combination of traffic, Senate and White House security procedures, we arrived late for our Senate lunch. I was surprised that David Silverberg of The Washington Jewish Week chose to criticize the White House briefing without making any effort to communicate with the United Jewish Appeal to learn the facts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jerome Dick
Chairman
Washington UJA Mission Program

Proposed Letter To
Washington Jewish Week

file -
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David Silverberg ought not to be so quick to accept the Mondale campaign's defense of David Aaron and Robert Hunter, former Zbigniew Brzezinski chief aides now honchoing the Mondale foreign policy effort. The Mondale campaign has tried to distance these Brzezinski proteges from their former boss by claiming, in David Ifshin's words, that Aaron is never mentioned in Brzezinski's memoirs (Washington Jewish Week) June 28, 1984. False. The index shows Aaron mentioned 26 times -- at least twice in specific discussions of Israel. Hunter, Brzezinski's main middle east man and Mondale's foreign policy trouble-shooter rates three mentions.

The historical fact is that much of the tough Carter line with Israel was worked out with NSC participation, if not leadership. In a bureaucracy, i.e., that means not only Brzezinski, but also his middle east advisors. Why does not Silverberg ask Jewish leaders about Aaron and Brzezinski's activities during the 1978 ruckus over the F-15 sale to Saudia Arabia? Is it natural to assume that Brzezinski would hire as a chief deputy someone with whom he was at intellectual logger-heads?

As to David Ifshin's charge that Marshall Breger's analysis of the employment history of Mondale's foreign policy staff is some kind of smear equivalent perhaps to charging Breger with responsibility for Casper Weinberger's foreign policy views -- consider this: Aaron was Brzezinski's chief deputy, Breger is in a different government agency completely. Who is smearing whom, Mr. Silverberg.

The sad truth is that the Mondale foreign policy team is permeated with key Brzezinski operatives. To deny this truth is no less silly than the apparent effort to hide (for Jewish, if not southern consumption) the fact that Mondale was Carter's Vice President. The Jewish community's responsibility is to ponder the consequences to Israel of Brzezinski redux within the folds of the Mondale special interest caravan. Denying the Mondale team's relationship with Carter and Brzezinski will not sweep that relationship away.