

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

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**Collection:** Executive Secretariat, NSC: Head of State  
File: Records

**Folder Title:** The Vatican: Pope John Paul II  
(8200555-8204184)

**Box:** 41

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*Last Updated: 02/11/2025*

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: HEAD OF STATE FILE **Withdrawer**  
CAS 4/19/2011  
**File Folder** THE VATICAN: POPE JOHN PAUL II (8200555-8204184) **FOIA**  
M10-347  
**Box Number** 41 STUMMVOLL  
5

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
108413	MEMO	DENNIS BLAIR TO WILLIAM CLARK RE REPLY FROM THE PRESIDENT TO POPE'S LETTER OF JANUARY 4 <b>R 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #52</b>	1	2/23/1982	B1
108414	MEMO	CLARK TO REAGAN RE REPLY TO POPE'S LETTER OF JAN 4 <b>R 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #53</b>	1	ND	B1
108415	LETTER	REAGAN TO POPE (NOT SENT) <b>R 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #54</b>	2	ND	B1
108416	LETTER	POPE TO REAGAN <b>D 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #55; D 5/11/06 NLRRM04-010 #10; D UPHELD 6/27/2013 M347/1</b>	6	1/4/1982	B1
108417	DRAFT LETTER	REAGAN TO POPE <b>R 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #56</b>	2	ND	B1
108418	DRAFT LETTER	REAGAN TO POPE <b>R 7/18/2000 NLSF99-010 #57</b>	2	ND	B1

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

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection:** National Security Council Executive Secretariat: PA:  
Head of State File  
**File Folder:** The Vatican: Pope John Paul II (8200555-8204184)

**Archivist:** dlb  
**Date:** 1/7/99

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
NSC Casefile #8200555			
1. Memo	Dennis Blair to William Clark, re: Reply from the President to Pope's Letter of January 4, 1 p. <i>R 7/18/80 NSC 99-010 #52</i>	2/23/82	P1/F1
2. Memo	Clark to Reagan, re: Reply to the Pope's Letter of January 4, 1 p. <i>R " " #53</i>	n.d.	P1/F1
3. Letter	Reagan to Pope John Paul II (not sent), 2 p. <i>R " " #54</i>	n.d.	P1/F1
4. Letter	Pope John Paul II to Reagan, 6 p. <i>D 7/18/80 NSC 99-010 #55</i>	1/4/82	P1/F1
5. Draft Letter	Reagan to Pope John Paul II, 2 p. <i>R 7/18/80 NSC 99-010 #56</i>	n.d.	P1/F1
6. Draft Letter	Reagan to Pope John Paul II, 2 p. <i>R " " #57</i>	n.d.	P1/F1

### RESTRICTION CODES

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

~~SECRET~~

RECEIVED 29 JAN 82 14

TO

PRES

FROM POPE JOHN PAUL II

DOCDATE 04 JAN 82

BREMER

28 JAN 82

KEYWORDS: VATICAN

HS

POLAND

SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO PRES LTRS TO POPE RE POLAND &amp; US GOVT POLICIES

ACTION: PENDING STATE RECOMMENDATIONS DUE: 06 FEB 82 STATUS D FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

STATE

CLEVELAND

BLAIR

PIPES

STEARMAN

COMMENTS

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL  
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

REF#

8202034

LOG

NSCIFID

( L / )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

1) 2/5 Wheeler Stearns to Bremer

2 2/18 Reid S/S Chaff cc

DB S 2/18 PMC 2/20

Clark X 2/19 forward to Pres for Sig 2/22

Blair S 2/21 for revision 2/23

Clark X 2/21 fwd to Pres for sig cc

- 3/9 noted by Clark w/ comment

Blair S 3/9 further action 3/10 cc

Taken care of with State by telephone 3/15 & Blair cc

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE

PA (C) dam



~~SECRET~~

HW

555 Redo

MEMORANDUM

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

February 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

FROM: DENNIS J. BAIR

SUBJECT: Reply from the President to Pope's Letter of January 4

*You waste our time by coming in with this now - before has it been? WPC*

Attached for your signature at Tab I is a memorandum to the President forwarding his reply to the Pope's letter of January 4. This was the letter (Tab B) which has caused the recent media controversy, when the President characterized it at a press conference. Originally we had seen no need to answer it, but in view of the public comment on the letter, it seems advisable to send a reply. (C)

Your memorandum to the President brings him up to date on our relations with the Vatican on Poland. You may wish to mention personally to the President that in the case of letters from friendly heads of state, it is safest to check with the sender before talking about the contents publicly. (S)

The proposed reply to the Pope was drafted by State, and has been checked by speechwriters (Tab A).

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign and forward the memorandum at Tab I to the President.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments:

Tab I	Memorandum to the President
Tab A	Letter to the Pope
Tab B	Incoming letter to the President from the Pope, January 4

~~SECRET~~

Review February 23, 1982

CLASSIFIED  
NLS F99-010 #52  
BY C15 NARA DATE 7/18/00

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

555

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: Reply to the Pope's Letter of January 4

Attached for your signature at Tab A is a reply to the letter on Poland the Pope sent you on January 4 (Tab B). This is the letter which has generated press controversy after you mentioned it in your January 20 press conference, and the Vatican then backed away from your statement. (C)

That controversy is now behind us. Bill Wilson, your personal envoy to the Vatican, had a meeting with the Pope in which the Pope made it clear he does in fact support our Polish policy, and sees his actions as complementary to ours. However, he cannot be as publicly forthcoming in expressing this support as we would wish. (S)

The reply for your signature breaks no new ground with the Pope, but expresses your personal feelings of sympathy for the people of Poland and the imperative need of free men and their leaders to support them. (S)

RECOMMENDATION

O.K.        No

\_\_\_\_\_ That you sign the letter to the Pope at Tab A.

Attachments:

Tab A        Letter to the Pope  
Tab B        Incoming letter of January 4

~~SECRET~~

Review February 19, 1988

Prepared by:  
Dennis C. Blair

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED  
NLS F99-010 #53  
BY CTS, NARS DATE 7/18/00

**National Security Council  
The White House**

RECEIVED

Package # 555

82 FEB 19 6:46

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	ACTION
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Bud McFarlane	_____	_____	_____
Jacque Hill	_____	_____	_____
Judge Clark	_____	_____	_____
John Poindexter	<u>1</u>	<u>JP</u>	_____
Staff Secretary	<u>2</u>	_____	<u>A</u>
Sit Room	_____	_____	_____

I-Information    A-Action    R-Retain    D-Dispatch

**DISTRIBUTION**

CY To VP	_____	Show CC	_____
CY To Meese	_____	Show CC	_____
CY To Baker	_____	Show CC	_____
CY To Deaver	_____	Show CC	_____
Other	_____		

**COMMENTS**

*Dennis Blair,  
Revise Tab I as indicated.  
In your cover memo recommend  
the judge verbally mention this  
to President. John  
Revised as directed - JCKlein*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Your Holiness:

Your letter of January 4, in which you recount the tragic history of the Polish people and pay tribute to their unquenchable thirst for liberty and national integrity, has moved me deeply.

No one can be ignorant of the terrible crimes and unspeakable affliction so courageously borne through the years. Tragically, the leaders of the Western democracies were too often ready, even in the present century, to condone by their silence many terrible occurrences in the political life of nations. I tremble to think of God's verdict on those who acquiesced in these deeds, as well as on those who perpetrated them.

Today, again, the Polish nation has suffered a harsh deprivation of freedom and human dignity. Faced with this brutal fact, we in the West have a clear and unavoidable responsibility to speak out, to act, and to avoid indulging tyranny again as our predecessors did in the past.

The ultimate responsibility of the Soviet Union for this tragedy is indisputable, however artfully the Russians may disguise their involvement. The Soviet action in Poland is not an aberration of policy. It is an act of brutality, part of a pattern of behavior that seeks to block peaceful change in the world by force and open aggression. Left unanswered, it can only lead to a dangerous deterioration in relations between East and West. We continue to hope for a constructive relationship with the Soviet Union, but such a relationship cannot exist in the absence of Soviet restraint.

DECLASSIFIED / RE/LEASED  
NL 199-010 34  
BY AS DATE 7/18/00



Your Holiness, the encouragement you have given on the moral and spiritual plane to the political actions of Poland's friends and supporters in the West has been of the utmost importance. Now more than ever we must strive to maintain this unity of purpose.

Sincerely,

His Holiness  
John Paul II  
Vatican City

Pope 8200555

## RONALD W. REAGAN LIBRARY

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 4 LISTED ON THE  
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.



8203119  
XR-8202034  
NSC-555

NODIS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 18, 1982

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~  
alb

NODIS

(With SECRET Attachment)

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILLIAM P. CLARK  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Draft Reply to the Letter of January 4  
from the Pope to the President

Attached is a draft reply for the President's  
use in responding to Pope John Paul II's letter of  
January 4 on Poland.

L. Paul Bremer, III  
Executive Secretary

Attachment:  
As stated.

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~  
alb

(With SECRET Attachment)

RDS-3 2/18/02

~~SECRET~~

Your Holiness:

Your letter of January 4, in which you recount the tragic history of the Polish people and pay moving tribute to their unquenchable thirst for liberty and national integrity, has affected me very deeply.

No one, certainly, can be ignorant of the terrible crimes and unspeakable afflictions so courageously borne through the years by the people of Poland. Tragically, the leaders of the Western democracies were too often ready, even in the present century, to condone by their silence many terrible occurrences in the political life of nations. History's verdict on those who acquiesced in these deeds, as well as on those who perpetrated them, has been severe indeed.

Today once again the Polish nation has had forced upon itself a harsh deprivation of freedom and human dignity. Faced with this brutal fact, we in the West have a clear and unavoidable responsibility to speak out, and to act, lest history judge us as it has judged our predecessors.

The ultimate responsibility of the Soviet Union for this tragedy is indisputable, however artfully the Russians may dissemble to disguise their involvement. The Soviet action in Poland is not an aberration

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED  
NLS 199-010 #51  
BY CAS  
DATE 7/11/00



~~SECRET~~

-2-

of policy. It is an act of singular brutality, part of a pattern of behavior that seeks to block peaceful change in the world by resort to force and open aggression. Left unanswered, it can only lead to a dangerous deterioration in relations between East and West. We continue to hope for a constructive relationship with the Soviet Union, but such a relationship cannot exist in the absence of Soviet restraint.

Your Holiness, the encouragement you have given on the moral and spiritual plane to the political actions of Poland's friends and supporters in the West has been of the utmost importance. Now more than ever we must strive to maintain this unity of purpose.

Sincerely,

His Holiness  
John Paul II,  
Vatican City.

~~SECRET~~

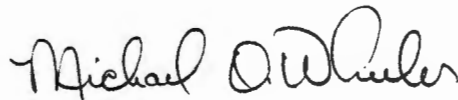
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

February 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR L. PAUL BREMER III  
Executive Secretary  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Reply to Pope's letter to the  
President of 4 January

The Department is requested to draft a reply to the  
Pope's letter to the President dated 4 January  
concerning the situation in Poland.

  
Michael O. Wheeler

## MEMORANDUM

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

February 2, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR MICHAEL O. WHEELER

FROM: DENNIS C. BLAIR 

SUBJECT: Reply to Pope's Letter of 4 January

Attached for your signature is a memorandum to the State Department requesting them to draft a reply to the Pope's controversial 4 January letter to the President.

We had previously planned not to reply, but the recent controversy generated by the President's press comments argues for a formal reply.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Attachment

Tab I      Memorandum to State Department



S/S 8202034  
555

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 28, 1982

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

cc: 6715  
7378

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Michael O. Wheeler  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Alerting NSC on Presidential  
Correspondence

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to President Reagan from Pope John Paul II, Vatican Office which is transmitted for your information.

This document was received in the Executive Secretariat Information Management Section on January 27, 1982 at 9:56 p.m.

*Charles L. Jackson Jr.*  
Director, S/S-I  
Information Management Section  
Executive Secretariat  
ext. 23836



8202034

DEPARTMENT OF STATE <b>TRANSMITTAL SLIP</b>		CLASSIFICATION <del>SECRET/NODIS</del>	
		DATE Jan. 6, 1982	
TO Dept. of State		For the Attention of <del>EUR/WB</del> J. Dooley	
FROM AmEmbassy Rome - Vatican Office			
TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE		TO THE DEPARTMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> For transmittal to Addressee at the Discretion of Post <input type="checkbox"/> Post Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Transmit to Foreign Office <input type="checkbox"/> Submit Report <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to the Individual		<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> CERP Publications <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure to Previous Airgram <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Department Request	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmit to: <input type="checkbox"/> Inform:		(U. S. Agency)	
REFERENCE  Letter from Pope John Paul II to President Reagan, dated January 4, 1982			
ITEMS/REMARKS  Please transmit enclosed letter to the President at White House. Also it should be handled as <del>SECRET/NODIS</del> . NO Conf. 1/6/86. Every			
IN REPLY REFER TO FILE NUMBER AND DRAFTING OFFICE			
FILE NO.		SIGNATURE <i>Ronald Reagan</i>	
CLASSIFICATION <del>SECRET/NODIS</del>		OFFICE VATICAN OFFICE	

FORM DS-4, 12-64

O - 11893

DECLASSIFIED  
 Department of State Guidelines, July 21, 1997  
 By dlb NARA, Date 1/4/97

AB Approved 2/19/82  
3:10 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Your Holiness:

Your letter of January 4, in which you recount the tragic history of the Polish people and pay ~~moving~~ tribute to their unquenchable ~~thirst~~ <sup>thirst</sup> for liberty and national integrity, has ~~affected~~ <sup>moved</sup> me ~~very~~ deeply.

No one, ~~certainly~~, can be ignorant of the terrible crimes and unspeakable affliction so courageously borne through the years, by the people of Poland have. Tragically, the leaders of the Western democracies were too often ready, even in the present century, to condone by their silence many terrible occurrences in the political life of nations. ~~History's~~ <sup>History's</sup> verdict on those who acquiesced in these deeds, as well as on those who perpetrated them, ~~as been severe~~ <sup>is from the to think of</sup> ~~indeed~~ <sup>God's</sup>.

Today, ~~once~~ <sup>inferred</sup> again, the Polish nation has had forced upon itself a harsh deprivation of freedom and human dignity. Faced with this brutal fact, we in the West have a clear and unavoidable responsibility to speak out, and to act, ~~and history judge us as it has judged~~ <sup>and history judge us as it has judged</sup> our predecessors, ~~did in the past~~ <sup>is moving again</sup>.

The ultimate responsibility of the Soviet Union for this tragedy is indisputable; however artfully the Russians may ~~dissemble to~~ disguise their involvement. The Soviet action in Poland is not an aberration of policy. It is an act of ~~singular~~ brutality, part of a pattern of behavior that seeks to block peaceful change in the world by ~~recourse to~~ force and open aggression. Left unanswered, it can only lead to a dangerous deterioration in relations between East and West. We continue to hope for a constructive relationship with the Soviet Union, but such a relationship cannot exist in the absence of Soviet restraint.

DECLASSIFIED  
NLS F99-010 #57  
BY CTS, NARA, DATE 7/18/00

*spiritual and moral*

Your Holiness, the encouragement you have given ~~on the moral and spiritual plane~~ to the political actions of Poland's friends and supporters in the West has been of the utmost importance. Now more than ever we must strive to maintain this unity of purpose.

Sincerely,

His Holiness  
John Paul II  
Vatican City

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

Feb 2, 1982

MEMO FOR: JERRY O'LEARY  
FROM: MICHAEL WHEELER *And for*

Your comments please.

*Mike:  
I don't know  
what was in the Pope's  
letter but I certainly  
agree to answer to it  
angry to me  
Jerry O'Leary*



**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

Copies given to O'Leary and Tyson for  
comment.

2-2-82

Carol C.

RECEIVED 09 APR 82 18

TO CLARK

FROM BLAIR

DOCDATE 09 APR 82

KEYWORDS: SPACE PROGRAMS

WS

JOHN PAUL II

SUBJECT: REPLY TO POPE LTR OF CONGRATULATIONS ON VOYAGE OF COLUMBIA

ACTION: FWD TO PRES FOR SIG

DUE: 13 APR 82 STATUS X FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CLARK

## COMMENTS

REF #

LOG

NSCIFID

( N / )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

Pres	P	4/23	signature		
	C	4/26	Pres sgd ltr		
Wheeler	S	4/26	Review	4/27	
State		4/27	In Vagatch		DB, RC

DISPATCH

W. 4/22

W/ATTCH FILE

PA (C) 11

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 27, 1982

Okay to dispatch.

C. Cleveland

120  
National Security Council  
The White House

Package # \_\_\_\_\_

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	ACTION
John Poindexter	1	<i>[initials]</i>	
Bud McFarlane	2	<i>[initials]</i>	
Jacque Hill	3	<i>[initials]</i>	
Judge Clark	4	<i>[initials]</i>	<i>A</i>
John Poindexter			
Staff Secretary			
Sit Room			

I-Information A-Action R-Retain D-Dispatch

DISTRIBUTION

cc: VP Meese Baker Deaver

Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

*This is a good way to wind  
up the 4 Jan. Pope's letter affair.  
John.*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1982

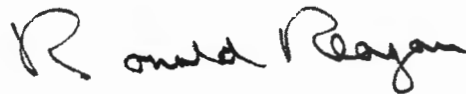
Your Holiness:

Thank you for your kind message of congratulations on the successful completion of the Columbia space shuttle's voyage on March 30. It was a happy moment for all Americans, and one that we were pleased to share with people throughout the world.

While the voyage of the Columbia symbolizes the finest aspirations and achievements of mankind, we unfortunately are at the same time reminded of man's capacity for repression and injustice. Your eloquent letter to me of January 4 recounted the valiant and difficult struggle of the Polish people for freedom, a struggle which has not yet achieved success.

May the voyage of Columbia reinspire us with a vision of man's capacity for peaceful progress. It is our firm hope that such ventures into space will make an important contribution to all mankind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

His Holiness  
John Paul II  
Vatican City



REFERRAL

DATE: 27 APR 82

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: JOHN PAUL II

SOURCE: PRES

DATE: 26 APR 82

KEYWORDS: SPACE PROGRAMS

HS

JOHN PAUL II

SUBJ: COMPLETION OF COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE VOYAGE

---

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE:

COMMENTS:



FOR MICHAEL O WHEELER

STAFF SECRETARY

The President has seen \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

2350

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

April 23, 1982

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK *WPC*  
SUBJECT: Reply to Pope's Message

Attached for your signature is a reply to the Pope's recent message congratulating you on the successful voyage of the Columbia. Your reply also mentions our common effort for liberty and peace in Poland.

Tab A Letter to the Pope

.85 468 53 64:03

MW

MEMORANDUM

2350

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

April 9, 1982

SIGNED

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

FROM: DENNIS C. BLAIR

SUBJECT: Reply to Pope's Message

The Pope has sent the President a congratulatory message on the successful third voyage of the Columbia (Tab II).

Attached at Tab A is a reply for the President's signature which acknowledges the Pope's letter and refers to our common efforts for peace in Poland and the Pope's earlier letter.

Your memo to the President at Tab I forwards the reply for his signature.

RECOMMENDATION:

OK

NO

✓

— That you sign the memo to the President at Tab I.

Tab I Memo to the President  
A - Reply to the Pope  
Tab II Incoming Cable from Pope

PAPAL MESSAGE

I AM PLEASED THAT THE SPACE SHIP COLUMBIA HAS LANDED SAFELY AND I WISH TO EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO YOU AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. I PRAY THIS SUCCESSFUL MISSION AND ALL SPACE EXPLORATION AND EXPERIMENTAION WILL ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND FURTHER THE WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IOANNES PAULUS PP. II

WASHFAX RECEIPT  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1002 APR 7 11 08 29

*R*

**B**

S/S #

82 APR 7 P 9: 02

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

MESSAGE NO. 000632 CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED No. Pages 2

FROM: KATHY SHIRLEY S/S 23126  
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

MESSAGE FROM PRES. TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

<u>TO: (Agency)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO:</u>	<u>Extension</u>	<u>Room No.</u>
<u>NSC</u>	<u>MR. WHEELER</u>	<u>395-3440</u>	

FOR: CLEARANCE ☒ INFORMATION ☐ PER REQUEST ☐ COMMENT ☐

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

S/S Officer:

*Kathleen Shirley*

*[Signature]*

**crosshatch**

RETURN TIME-STAMPED COVERSHEET TO S/S.

UNCLASSIFIED

EUR/WE:JADDOOLEY:EML  
4/7/82 X28210  
EUR:HAHOLMES

EUR/WE:RGELBARD  
NSC

S/S

IMMEDIATE

ROME

FOR VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, VT, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO POPE JOHN PAUL II  
REGARDING THE COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT  
TO POPE JOHN PAUL II. THERE WILL BE NO SIGNED ORIGINAL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR HOLINESS:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS ON THE  
SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COLUMBIA SPACE SHUTTLE'S  
VOYAGE ON MARCH 30. IT WAS A HAPPY MOMENT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS, AND ONE THAT WE WERE PLEASED TO SHARE WITH  
PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IT IS OUR FIRM HOPE AND  
CONVICTION THAT SUCH VENTURES INTO SPACE WILL MAKE AN  
IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BETTERMENT OF ALL MANKIND.  
SINCERELY, RONALD REAGAN. END TEXT.

3. FYI: PAPAL MESSAGE WAS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

I AM PLEASED THAT THE SPACE SHIP COLUMBIA HAS LANDED  
SAFELY AND I WISH TO EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

1 2

WISHES TO YOU AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE STOP I PRAY THIS  
SUCCESSFUL MISSION AND ALL SPACE EXPLORATION AND  
EXPERIMENTATION WILL ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND  
FURTHER THE WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANY PEOPLE  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. IOANNES PAULUS PP. II. END TEXT  
yy

UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED 17 JUN 82 11

TO PRESIDENT

FROM JOHN PAUL II

DOCDATE 07 JUN 82

WILSON, WILLIAM

08 JUN 82

KEYWORDS: VATICAN

HS

NATO

FRENCH SUMMIT

SUBJECT: LTR READ BY POPE TO PRES IN PAPAL LIBRARY 7 JUN DURING VERSAILLES  
& NATO SUMMIT

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

DUE:

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FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BLAIR

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TYSON

STATE

COMMENTS DENNIS IF FOR ANY REASON THIS SHOULD BE STAFFED, PLS

ADVISE THE NSC/S. THANKS L.

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

( L / L )

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

COPIES TO

*Dennis Carmona No Reply*  
*Necessary*

DISPATCH

*102 6/17*

W/ATTCH

FILE

(C) *MB*

REFERRAL

DATE: 17 JUN 82

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: JOHN PAUL II

DATE: 07 JUN 82

KEYWORDS: VATICAN

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SUBJ: LTR READ BY POPE TO PRES IN PAPAL LIBRARY 7 JUN DURING VERSAILLES

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REQUIRED ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

DUE DATE:

COMMENTS:

  
FOR MICHAEL O WHEELER

STAFF SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE PERSONAL ENVOY OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE VATICAN

GENERAL DELIVERY, APO NEW YORK 09794

June 8, 1982

Dear Bill:

Enclosed is the original signed text of the message which the Pope read to the President in the Papal library on June 7, 1982.

Please pass this on to the President for his personal records.

It was good seeing you again albeit briefly. We enjoyed being with Joan at lunch and wish you could have been there too.

Betty and I expect to be in Washington about the 12th of July. I very much hope to see you then.

Warm regards,



William Wilson  
Presidential Envoy

The Honorable  
William F. Clark Jr.  
National Security Advisor  
The White House

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PRESERVATION COPY



Mr. President,

I am particularly pleased to welcome you today to the Vatican. Although we have already had many contacts, it is the first time that we have met personally.

In you, the President of the United States of America, I greet all the people of your great land. I still remember vividly the warm welcome that I was given by millions of your fellow-citizens less than three years ago. On that occasion I was once more able to witness firsthand the vitality of your nation. I was able to see again how the moral and spiritual values transmitted by your Founding Fathers find their dynamic expression in the life of modern America.

The American people are indeed proud of their right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. They are proud of civil and social progress in American society, as well as the extraordinary advances in science and technology. As I speak to you today it is my hope that the entire structure of American life will rest ever more securely on the strong foundation of moral and spiritual



values. Without the fostering and defense of these values, all human advancement is stunted and the very dignity of the human person is endangered.

Throughout the course of their history, and especially in difficult times, the American people have repeatedly risen to challenges presented to them. They have given many proofs of unselfishness, generosity, concern for others - concern for the poor, the needy, the oppressed; they have shown confidence in that great ideal of being a united people, with a mission of service to perform. At this present moment in the history of the world the United States is called, above all, to fulfill its mission in the service of world peace. The very condition of the world today calls for a farsighted policy that will favor those indispensable conditions of justice and freedom, of truth and love that are the foundations of lasting peace.

Mr. President, my own greatest preoccupation is for the peace of the world - peace in our day. In many parts of the world there are centers of acute tension. This acute tension is manifested above all in the crisis in the South Atlantic, in the war between Iran and Iraq, and, now, in its grave crisis provoked by the new events in Lebanon.

This grave crisis in Lebanon likewise merits the attention of the world because of the great danger it contains of further provocation in the Middle East, with immense consequences for world peace.

There are fortunately many factors in society today that positively contribute to peace. These positive factors include an increasing realization of the interdependence of all peoples, a growing solidarity with those in need, and a greater conviction of the absurdity of war as a means of resolving controversies between nations. During my recent visit to Britain I stated in particular that "the scale and horror of modern warfare - whether nuclear or not - makes it totally unacceptable as a means of settling differences between nations" (At Coventry, May 30, 1982). And for those who profess the Christian faith I offered as motivation the fact that "when you are in contact with the Prince of Peace, you understand how totally opposed to his message are ... hatred and war" (To the young people, at Cardiff, June 2, 1982).

The duty of peace falls especially upon the leaders of the world. It is up to the representatives of governments and peoples to work to free humanity not only from wars and conflicts but from the fear that is generated by ever more sophisticated and deadly weapons. Peace is not only the absence of war; it also involves reciprocal trust between nations - a trust that is manifested and proved through constructive negotiations that aim at ending the arms race, and at liberating immense resources that can be used to allieviate misery and feed millions of hungry human beings.

All effective peacemaking requires farsightedness; farsightedness is a quality needed in all peacemakers. Your own great nation is called to exercise this farsightedness, as are all the nations of the world. This quality enables leaders to commit themselves to those concrete programs which are essential to world peace - programs of justice and development, efforts to defend and protect human life, as well as initiatives that favor human rights. On the contrary, anything that wounds, weakens or dishonors human dignity, in any aspect, imperils the cause of the human person and, at the same time, the peace of the world.

The relations between nations are greatly affected by the development issue, which preserves its full relevance in this day of ours. Success in resolving questions in the North-South dialogue will continue to be the gauge of peaceful relations between various political communities and continue to influence the peace of the world in the years ahead. Economic and social advancement, linked to financial collaboration between peoples, remains an apt goal for the renewed efforts of the statesmen of the world.

A truly universal concept of the common good of the human family is an incomparable instrument in building the edifice of world peace. It is my own conviction that a united and concerned America can contribute immensely to the cause of world peace through the efforts of her leaders and the commitment of all her citizens. Dedicated to the high ideals of her traditions, America is in a splendid position to help all humanity enjoy what she herself is intent on possessing. With faith in God and belief

in universal human solidarity, may America step forward at this crucial moment in history to consolidate her rightful place at the service of world peace.

In this sense, Mr. President, I repeat today those words that I spoke when I left the United States in 1979: "My final prayer is this: that God will bless America, so that she may increasingly become - and truly be - and long remain - 'One Nation, under God, indivisible. With liberty and justice for all'" (October 7, 1979).

From the Vatican, June 7, 1982

*Joannes Paulus PP. II*