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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name NORTH, OLIVER: FILES

Withdrawer

DLB 12/28/2006

File Folder TERRORISM: UNITED STATES - BRITISH (01/16/1984-04/30/1984)

FOIA

F02-071/3

Box Number 14

COLLINS

19

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
31417	LETTER	REAGAN TO THATCHER, WITH EDITS <i>R 8/4/2008 F02-071/3</i>	2	ND	B1
31418	LETTER	DUPLICATE OF #25606; THATCHER TO REAGAN	1	10/7/1983	B1
31419	LETTER	DRAFT LETTER REAGAN TO THATCHER <i>R 8/4/2008 F02-071/3</i>	2	ND	B1
31420	REPORT	IRAN: SPREADING ISLAM AND TERRORISM - PAGES - 1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,19 ONLY <i>D 10/26/2011 F2002-071/3</i>	10	2/1/1984	B1 B3

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

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January 16, 1984

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH

SUBJECT: Presidential Letter in Response to Prime Minister Thatcher regarding International Terrorism and Extradition of William Quinn

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum from you to the President requesting his signature on the letter attached at Tab A. The letter is in response to Prime Minister Thatcher's letter to the President (Tab B) expressing the determination and the cooperation between our two governments to combat international terrorism.

She notes her disappointment, however, in the U.S. District Court Appeal against the extradition of William Quinn, an IRA member, accused of murdering a British policeman in 1975. She feels that nothing should interfere with our commitment to fight terrorism, therefore, she will be following the outcome of the case with particular interest.

The President's response at Tab A expresses his disappointment in the judgement and notes that the Department of Justice's attempt to seek judicial review of the decision may not come for several months. Meanwhile, Mr. Quinn remains in the custody U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

The President's letter also notes that the Administration has introduced legislation which could counter similar appeals for extradition by requiring the courts to apply more restrictive criteria in adjudicating "political offense" claims in offenses similar to William Quinn's.

Finally, the President's letter notes that he would like the terrorism issue to be included in political discussions during the Summit this summer. Since Doug McMinn will be travelling to London on Tuesday, he could personally carry the President's letter.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That you initial and forward the memo at Tab I to the President for his signature.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

*New file
Terrorism: Eyes Leaders*

7364

North

That you have Doug McMinn carry the letter with him to London on January 17, 1984.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachments

- Tab I - McFarlane Memo to the President
 - Tab A - Presidential Letter to Prime Minister Thatcher
 - Tab B - Prime Minister Thatchers Letter to President Reagan dtd October 7, 1983
- Tab II - Hill Memo to McFarlane dtd November 9, 1984 w/draft response

TAB
I

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

SUBJECT: Letter to Prime Minister Thatcher regarding
International Terrorism and Extradition of
William Quinn

Issue: How to respond to Prime Minister Thatcher's letter (Tab B) regarding international terrorism and the extradition of William Quinn, an IRA member.

Facts: On September 17, 1983, you sent a message to Western European Heads of State/Government soliciting their views on how best to proceed in combatting terrorism. In her reply, Prime Minister Thatcher cites the failure to extradite an alleged IRA member, William Quinn, who is accused of murdering a British police officer. Quinn is currently being held in San Francisco pending a final decision by the U.S. District Appeals Court. We have been holding any further missives in hopes for a positive outcome.

Discussion: While a response to Prime Minister Thatcher's letter is not imperative, it is an opportunity to press for better joint action against terrorists. Your letter at Tab A provides her with a status report on the Quinn case and note your position on the "political offense" issue. It also solicits her support for including counter-terrorism on the agenda for this Summer's Summit. Given recent IRA activity, we hope to find empathetic support for such an initiative.

Recommendation

Yes

No

1. That you sign the letter at Tab A to Prime Minister Thatcher.

Attachments

Tab A - Your letter to Prime Minister Thatcher

Tab B - Prime Minister Thatcher letter of October 14, 1983

TAB

A

31417

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Margaret:

Thank you for your letter of October 7, indicating that we are together in our concern about international terrorism and a determination to combat it. I am heartened by your expression of our common resolve.

With regard to the William Joseph Quinn case which you raised in your letter, I share your disappointment that a U.S. District Court Judge in San Francisco recently held that Mr. Quinn is not extraditable to the United Kingdom. The Department of Justice is attempting to seek judicial review of that decision. In the meantime, the U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco has ordered that Mr. Quinn remain in custody pending its final decision. That decision, however, may not come for some time.

International terrorists should not be immune from extradition on the ground that their crimes are "political offenses." My Administration has twice introduced legislation which would make it considerably more difficult to invoke the "political offense" exception in cases such as this. We seek to establish more restrictive criteria for the courts in their adjudication of such claims. When the Congress reconvenes, we will again press hard for a positive outcome on this bill and on several others which will be helpful in combatting terrorism.

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR F02-071/3#31417

BY LOI NARA DATE 8/14/08

~~In my annual State of the Union Address to the Congress, I plan to solicit support for legislation that will implement improved measures against international terrorists. I would appreciate your support for including this critical issue in our discussions at the London Summit in June. The Western democracies must act in concert if we are to persevere against the brutality of terrorism.~~

It is important that we, of the Western Democracies, marshal our efforts against the growing threat of international and state sponsored terrorism terrorist activity. I would appreciate your support for a multilateral approach to this critical issue. We

The Right Honorable
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
London

done

TAB

B

8331573

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 8307364

REFERRAL

DATE: 14 OCT 83

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE THATCHER, MARGARET

DATE: 07 OCT 83

KEYWORDS: TERRORISM

GREAT BRITAIN

LEGAL ISSUES

HS

SUBJ: LTR RE INTL TERRORISM & EXTRADITION OF WILLIAM QUINN / IRA MEMBER

REQUIRED ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT REPLY

DUE DATE: 21 OCT 83

COMMENTS

Melanie Rhodes
FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

*Rec'd 5/5 - I
10/14/83
QMB*



ED

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TEL: (202) 462-1340

14 October 1983

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

83 OCT 14 P12:18

The Honorable
William P Clark
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House
WASHINGTON DC

Dear Bill,

I am enclosing a letter from the Prime Minister to President Reagan and would be grateful for your help in transmitting it to him.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Wright

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TAB
II

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 9, 1983



~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

atb 12/25/06

83 NOV 10 AM 11:45

SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Presidential Response to Prime Minister
Thatcher's Letter of October 7, 1983

Attached is a draft letter for the President's signature responding to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's letter of October 7, 1983 concerning international terrorism and the Quinn extradition case.

Richard D. Kausland Jr.

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. Draft Letter.
2. Incoming Correspondence.

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

31419

DRAFT REPLY

Dear Margaret:

Thank you for your letter of October 7 stating that you share my deep concern about international terrorism and my determination to combat it. I am heartened by your expression of our common resolve.

With regard to the William Joseph Quinn case which you raised in your letter, I, too, am disappointed that a U.S. District Court Judge in San Francisco recently held that Mr. Quinn is not extraditable to the United Kingdom. The Department of Justice is attempting to seek judicial review of that decision; in the meantime, the United States Court of Appeals in San Francisco has ordered that Mr. Quinn remain in custody pending its final decision. That decision, however, may not come for several months.

International terrorists should not be immune from extradition on the ground that their crimes are "political offenses". In the last two Congresses my Administration has introduced legislation which would make it considerably more difficult to invoke the political offense exception in cases

The Right Honorable
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
London.

DECLASSIFIED
NLRR F02-071/3 #31419
BY NOJ NARA DATE 8/4/08

such as this. Our bill would establish more restrictive criteria which the courts would be required to apply in adjudicating "political offense" claims. We have been actively pursuing the enactment of such legislation, but at this time, it is difficult to predict prospects for passage.

I assure you that this Administration is resolved to combat terrorism wherever it occurs.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

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