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497314

Memo to the Record

To: LP-GWB Archivists

From: Elizabeth Lanier

Date: 01/11/2016

Collection: White House Office of Records Management (ORM)

Series: Subject Files - CO082 (Israel)

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Notes:

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 497314
PAGE 1

DATE RECEIVED: 10/09/2001

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. JANE HOLMES DIXON

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER THE RECENT ISRAELI MILITARY ACTION IN BEIT JALA, WHICH INVOLVED THE FORCED USE OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION AS A MILITARY OUTPOST

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACTION CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL	STEVE HADLEY	ORG	2001/10/09			

ACTION COMMENTS

ACTION COMMENTS:

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COMMENTS

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 0

MEDIA: LETTER

INDIVIDUAL CODES:

REPORT CODES:

USER CODE:

SCANNED
BY
ORM

ACTION CODES:

A - APPROPRIATE ACTION
C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION
D - DRAFT RESPONSE
F - FURNISH FACT SHEET
I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY
R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY
S - FOR SIGNATURE
X - INTERIM REPLY

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - ANSWERED
B - NON-SEPC-REFERRAL
C - COMPLETED
S - SUSPENDED

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER
CODE = A
COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

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Jane Holmes



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DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

The Right Reverend Jane Holmes Dixon
Bishop of Washington, Pro tempore

September 11, 2001

The Honorable George W. Bush
President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express concern over the recent Israeli military action in Beit Jala, a predominately Christian town, which involved the forced use of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation as a military outpost. Historically and morally, churches, mosques and synagogues have been considered sanctuaries. For military forces to take over a church is a violation of the sacred place a house of worship holds in any civilized society. We trust that you will exert all possible influence to encourage both factions in this conflict to show respect for religious places. We recognize that the ongoing conflict in the Middle East is complex and deplore the violence on both sides. However, we see no justification in using a church as a military base. Yet the church compound was taken by force and people were barred from entering and leaving the church and its adjacent orphanage. This resulted in distress for some 50 children who went without food over an extended period. Lutheran Bishop Younan of Jerusalem finally prevailed and was allowed to obtain relief for the children.

As Episcopalians we have a close relationship with Lutherans under an agreement Called to Common Mission. We join with them in denouncing this military take over of a house of worship. We pray for the people of the Holy Land that the suffering on both sides will end.

May God bless you always,

Jane Holmes Dixon
Bishop of Washington, Pro tempore

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