

04-F-0625

1983 SEP 21 PM 3:00

CHARLES B. RANGEL
18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK
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THEODORE M. JONES
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 20, 1983

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DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

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1708 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10028
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PLEASE RESPOND TO
OFFICE CHECKED

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Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

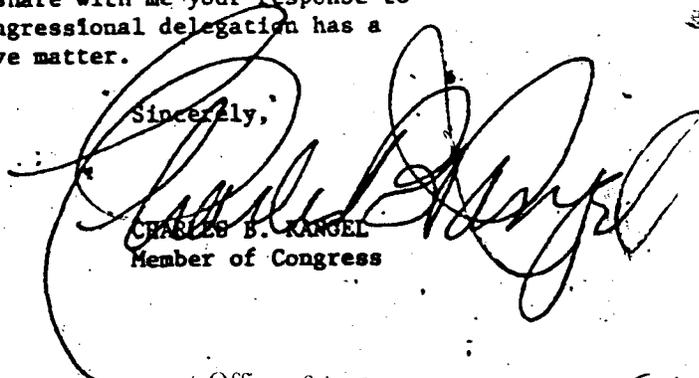
Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: AUG 2 1 2013

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Edward Koch, Mayor of the City of New York has shared with me a copy of a letter dated August 17, 1983 that he sent to you in connection with an alleged meeting which took place between you and the Saudi Defense Minister, Sultan Ben Abd el Aziz on May 12, 1983 in Paris.

Mayor Koch referred to a transcript that was published in a Lebanese news magazine on July 17, 1983. The transcript contained some remarks which I am certain you would want to disassociate yourself from or explain in what context it was reported. It would be helpful if you would share with me your response to Mayor Koch since the entire Congressional delegation has a concern over this very sensitive matter.

Sincerely,



CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR:bs

cc: Honorable Edward I. Koch

Office of the Secretary of Defense *5 USC 552*
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS *and*
Date: *22 AUG 2013* Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: *X* Deny in Full: _____
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Reason: _____
MDR: *13-M-3148*

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13-M-3148



INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

28 September 1983

In reply refer to:
I-14315/83

Honorable Charles B. Rangel
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: AUG 21 2013

Dear Congressman:

Secretary of Defense Weinberger has asked me to reply to your letter of 20 September 1983 in which you expressed an interest in his response to Mayor Koch's concerns in regard to an alleged transcript of his conversation with Saudi Minister of Defense, Prince Sultan. I understand that his reply may have already come to your attention. In view of the fact that the correspondence between Mayor Koch and Secretary Weinberger is now in the public domain, I am enclosing a copy of his response.

Sincerely,

John D. Stempel
Acting Deputy Assistant
Secretary of Defense
Near Eastern South Asian
Affairs

Attachment
as stated

VOSD CCS
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ASD/ISA DASD/NESA
ASD/LA NESA
DSAA/Cong Rel Drafter
Prepared by. COL Hofmann(X78088)



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

F 13637/83

20 SEP 1983

Honorable Edward I. Koch
Mayor
City of New York
New York, New York 10007

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Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: AUG 21 2013

Dear Mayor Koch:

With regard to your letters of September 1 and 14, 1983, it has been the policy of this and every other Administration not to reveal details of classified diplomatic exchanges. I have no intention of deviating from a practice that is essential to the conduct of diplomacy. I stand by what I said in my previous letter, which is that the purported transcript is a fabrication in its entirety.

No one here ever heard of the "news magazine" you mentioned so, of course, "there was no denial, etc." on our part. I cannot believe you are serious in suggesting that "these allegations," meaning the obvious forgery and disinformation in some obscure publication, "were serious enough to the U.S. . . . to warrant a reply." It is exactly as if I chided you for not replying to some Iranian publication of which you had never heard, accusing you of being anti-Semitic.

I have "unequivocally denied" the nonsense in this false transcript; and I certainly do not appreciate what seems to me to be a clumsy effort to make political capital out of these lies.

Very truly yours,

Samuel R. Huntington