This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Folder Title:
SRB [Samuel R. Berger] - American Muslim Council, May 7, 1999

Staff Office-Individual:
Speechwriting-Widmer, Edward

Original OA/ID Number:
2188

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row:</th>
<th>Section:</th>
<th>Shelf:</th>
<th>Position:</th>
<th>Stack:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</td>
<td>SUBJECT/TITLE</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>RESTRICTION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>001. speech</td>
<td>re: Samuel R. Berger - Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs - Remarks Before American Muslim Council - Washington, D.C. (with extensive comments) (7 pages)</td>
<td>05/07/1999</td>
<td>P5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**
- Clinton Presidential Records
- National Security Council
- Ted Widmer (Speechwriting)
- OA/Box Number: 2188

**FOLDER TITLE:**
- Samuel R. Berger (SRB) - American Muslim Council (AMC), 5/2/1999

**RESTRICION CODES**

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 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.

**PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).**

**RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.**

**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]
I’m delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world – a relationship that has received too little attention among foreign policy elites.

I’m proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, as a general rule, I think it’s important for the President’s foreign policy advisers to meet representatives of ethnic and religious groups in the United States. You understand the immediate impact of our policy abroad. Your support for what we do – or at least, your clear understanding of our thinking – strengthens our policy and increases its likelihood of success. One of the most positive forces for a principled, purposeful American foreign policy is the engagement of Americans with roots overseas.

I am also proud to speak to you because American Muslims are have a critically important role to play as a bridge between the United States and the Muslim world. Our relationship with the Islamic community is vital to almost everything we are trying to do, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way toward deepening the relationship– but we have a long way still ahead.
From the time President Clinton took the oath of office, this Administration has reached out to the Muslim community worldwide. The President’s respect for Islam proceeds from a basic grasp of two facts. One, Muslims constitute a quarter of the world’s population; it is self-evident you will play an important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, Muslims are rapidly redefining our own nation. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by some six million Americans, in over 1200 mosques and Islamic centers.

The President and First Lady have acted on this respect in a number of ways. They each have traveled extensively to Muslim nations, from Indonesia to Central Asia to Africa. Last December the President made an historic address to the Palestinian National Council in Gaza. There are Muslims throughout the Administration, beginning in the Cabinet (Shalala), and we are determined to do still more to make the Administration resemble America. There are Muslim chaplains in the military. USIA is reaching out to Muslim audiences through broadcasts and speaker programs.

Importantly, the President has made a conscious effort to dispel the old stereotypes of Islam, both in his aggressive search for peace in the Middle East, and in his public statements. Last September, he gave the keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans mistakenly link to Islam. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that “there is no contradiction between Islam and America.”
Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President’s insistence that Palestinians be treated as full partners. In November, he proposed sending $400 million over three years to the Palestinian people as part of the Wye Supplemental. Just last week, he wrote to Chairman Arafat and reaffirmed our support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their own land. We have also committed to bolster Jordan’s economy as it undergoes a transition to new leader.

Perhaps most clearly, Bosnia and Kosovo have refuted the claim that Islam and the West are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people—no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations—just a clash of values between those who seek a future of peace and prosperity and those who maintain power by resorting to violence and hatred. We are not fighting for Muslims against Orthodox Christians in Kosovo—we are fighting against the notion that at the end of the 20th century, people can be singled out for destruction and expulsion because of their faith or heritage. Two days ago, at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany, the President said that kind of policy “makes life unbearable and civilization impossible.” That is why we have opposed violence against Kurds in Iraq, against Muslims in Bosnia, against Serbs in Krajina, and now against Albanians in Kosovo.

I heard some heart-rending stories yesterday at a Kosovar refugee center in Germany. Women raped. Men rounded up to be killed and burned. Perhaps the most eloquent statement came from a young man who took the microphone, paused for a long time to compose himself, and then sat
back down in tears. "I cannot talk about Kosovo," he said sadly. These emotionally battered survivors reaffirm our determination to restore decent lives to a people whose only crime is that they want to enjoy their culture and their faith. We will not rest until the Serb forces have withdrawn from Kosovo, the refugees have returned home, and an international security force is in place to protect ethnic Serbs and Albanians alike. Nineteen allies, from across Europe and North America, with different political cultures and different relationships to the Balkans, are in complete agreement. We must do right by the people of Kosovo if we are to do right by the generation before us who fought fascism and the generation of our children who deserve a different future.

The Kosovo conflict has been agonizing for all parties involved – though we should remember it took four years to build an allied consensus in Bosnia, and only after 250,000 people had died. We in the Administration are working closely with Islamic nations to address the urgent needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – including generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Quatar, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Turkey – which has taken in more refugees than any non-frontline state. That generosity has stirred the world.

It’s undeniable that stereotypes still endure. Images of America as anti-Muslim and anti-Arab still provoke the Muslim world; images of Islam as a hotbed of fanaticism and terrorism remain here. There has been plenty of misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. Now we must forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and
cooperation. That is the wave of the future. It must include people from the entire world, irrespective of religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

Many Islamic nations continue to doubt our intentions. But the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan will not stick. The United States believes that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves – and we are eager to help Muslim nations test that belief on their own terms.

As you know all too well, many Americans are naive about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform, or confined to the Middle East, or absent from the United States. Of course, none of these are true. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be arrested for refusing to wear a veil in Afghanistan. Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different … Jordan and Syria … Syria and Iraq … Iraq and Iran. Simplistic images lead to simplistic policies – we need to deal with the world as it is.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. It is a future that could go in several directions. We can see enormous potential for Muslim nations across the world. Despite huge challenges, and ongoing violence, Indonesia has a chance to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. Nigeria, a partly Muslim nation, is also preparing for a historic transition. Morocco is making progress toward democracy. In Iran, we see and hear the rising voices of reform. In Jordan, King Abdullah, who will fill his father’s
large shoes well, has acted quickly to strengthen his nation's economy and improve its ties to the rest of the world. I look forward to his visit here on May 18.

But there are also reasons to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began with religious rivalry. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic interests. In Algeria, violence continues to take its deadly toll. There are unspeakable penalties imposed upon women in Afghanistan. And there are still too many countries in the Muslim world – stretching from Mauritania to Malaysia – with pockets of desperate poverty. Let's face it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.

A key source of tension between the United States and the Muslim world is the ongoing situation with Iraqi sanctions. Everyone believes that the Iraqi people deserve a chance to lead better lives. But those sanctions remain in place for a specific reason – they have deprived Saddam Hussein of $120 billion of oil revenue he would use to rebuild his arsenal and attack his neighbors. He certainly would not use it to help the people he has gassed, terrorized and suppressed since coming to power. He had access to sell oil-for-food beginning in 1991. But Saddam refused to act on it until 1996. We want to do whatever is necessary to meet the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people, and we are willing to increase oil-for-food accordingly. We have never sought to hurt an innocent people – we have only tried to stop Saddam from inflicting more unnecessary pain on them.

The way these troubled places define their future, for better or worse, will determine much of the character of the next century. If we work hard to nurture the positive developments, and to give
problems the consideration they deserve, we can crush the clash of civilizations theory once and for all. In the process, we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our own history: people of different faiths have to coexist, even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places struggling to learn its lesson. That depriving a people of their humanity based on their religion or ethnicity cannot be permitted to succeed if we are to enter a new century less bloody than the one we are leaving.

Islam, like all great religions, places a high value on the sense that each person is part of a larger community. That we are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know. That we are ennobled by our respect for each other, no matter how dissimilar we appear on the surface. One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, from East and West, Muslim and non-Muslim, royalty and commoners. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass of humanity, joined in bereavement for an extraordinary life that stood for our ability to overcome the boundaries that divide us.

That day marked the end of an era stretching back across nine presidencies – an era of great progress, but also of too much tension between the world’s Muslims and the United States. A new era is beginning, marked not only by a change in a calendar – not only by new ways to communicate – but by a confluence of events that has brought Muslim nations and the United States together for the same good reasons in Kosovo. Together, we are protecting the right of a people to inhabit not only their homes, but their interpretation of the house of God as well.
We must seize this opportunity to build upon our history. The President has often noted the paradox that our supremely modern global civilization is still bedeviled by ancient animosities. Nothing mankind has conceived of is more profound than our soaring capacity to imagine a divine being - and nothing has done more to divide us than religion. Millennium or no millennium, the time has come to face up to our oldest problem.
SAMUEL R. BERGER  
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS  
REMARKS BEFORE AMERICAN MUSLIM COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
MAY 7, 1999

I'm delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world – a relationship that has received too little attention among foreign policy elites. [FYI: Malley says either spelling OK; normal pronunciation OK, too]

I'm proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, as a general rule, I think it's important for the President’s foreign policy advisers to meet representatives of ethnic and religious groups in the United States. You understand the immediate impact of our policy in foreign countries. Your approval of what we do — or at least, your clear understanding of our thinking — strengthens our policy, broadens its support and increases its likelihood of success.

One of the most positive forces for a principled, purposeful American foreign policy is the engagement of Americans with roots overseas.

I am also proud to speak to you because American Muslims are have a critically important role to play as a bridge between the United States and the Muslim world. Our relationship with the Islamic community is vital to almost everything we are trying to do, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way toward deepening the relationship — but we have a long way still ahead.
From the time President Clinton took the oath of office, this Administration has reached out to Muslims. The President’s respect for Islam proceeds from a basic grasp of two facts. One, any group that constitutes a quarter of the world’s population will play an extremely important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, that Muslims are rapidly redefining our own nation. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by some six million Americans, in over 1200 mosques and Islamic centers.

The President and First Lady have acted on this respect in a number of ways. They each traveled extensively to Muslim nations, from Indonesia to Central Asia to Africa. Last December the President made a historic address to the Palestinian National Council in Gaza. There are Muslims throughout the Administration, beginning in the Cabinet (Shalala), and we are determined to do still more to make the Administration resemble American Muslim chaplains have been appointed to the military. USIA has reached out to Muslim audiences through broadcasts and speaker programs.

Importantly, the President has made a point to move beyond the old stereotypes of Islam, both in his aggressive search for peace in the Middle East, and in his public statements. Last September, he gave the keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans mistakenly link to Islam. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that “there is no contradiction between Islam and America.”
Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President’s insistence that Palestinians be treated as full partners. In November, he proposed sending $400 million over three years to the Palestinian people as part of the Wye Supplemental. Just last week, he wrote to Chairman Arafat and reaffirmed our support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their own land. We have also committed to bolster Jordan’s economy as it undergoes a transition to new leader.

Certainly, Bosnia and Kosovo have refuted the claim that Islam and the West are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people – no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations – just a clash of values between those who seek a future of peace and prosperity and those who gain and maintain power by resorting to violence and hatred. We are not fighting for Muslims against Orthodox Christians in Kosovo – we are fighting against the notion that at the end of the 20th century, people can be singled out for destruction and expulsion because of their faith or heritage. Two days ago, at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany, the President said that kind of policy “makes life unbearable and civilization impossible.” That is why we have opposed violence against Kurds in Iraq, against Muslims in Bosnia, against Serbs in Krajina, and now against Albanians in Kosovo.

I heard some heart-rending stories yesterday at a Kosovar refugee center in Germany. Women raped. Men rounded up to be killed and burned. Perhaps the most eloquent statement came from a young man who took the microphone, paused for a long time to compose himself, and then sat
back down in tears. "I cannot talk about Kosovo," he said sadly. These emotionally battered survivors reaffirm our determination to restore decent lives to a people whose only crime is that they want to enjoy their culture and their faith. We will not rest until the Serb forces have withdrawn from Kosovo, the refugees have returned home, and an international security force is in place to protect ethnic Serbs and Albanians alike. Nineteen allies, from across Europe and North America, with different political cultures and different relationships to the Balkans, are in complete agreement. We must do right by the people of Kosovo if we are to do right by the generation before us who fought fascism and the generation of our children who deserve a different future.

The Kosovo conflict has been agonizing for all parties involved – though we should remember it took four years to build an allied consensus in Bosnia, after 250,000 people had died. We in the Administration are working closely with Islamic nations to address the urgent needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwai, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Quatar, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Turkey – which has taken in more refugees than any non-frontline state. That generosity has stirred the world.

It’s undeniable that stereotypes still endure. Images of America as anti-Muslim and anti-Arab still provoke the Muslim world; images of Islam as a hotbed of fanaticism and terrorism remain here. There has been plenty of misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. Now we must forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and
cooperation. That is the wave of the future. It must include people from the entire world, irrespective of religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

Many Islamic nations continue to doubt our intentions. But increasingly, they realize that the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan do not stick. The United States believes that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves – and we are eager to help Muslim nations test that belief on their own terms.

As you know all too well, many Americans are also naïve about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform, or confined to the Middle East, or absent from the United States. Of course, none of these are true. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be arrested for refusing to wear a veil in Afghanistan. Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different ... Jordan and Syria ... Syria and Iraq ... Iraq and Iran. Simplistic images lead to simplistic policies – we need to deal with the world as it is.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. It is a future that could go in several directions. We can see enormous potential for Muslim nations across the world. Despite huge challenges, and ongoing violence, Indonesia has a chance to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. Nigeria, a partly Muslim nation, is also preparing for a historic transition. Morocco is making progress toward democracy. In Iran, we see and hear the rising voices of reform. In Jordan, King Abdullah, who will fill his father’s
large shoes well, has acted quickly to strengthen his nation's economy and improve its ties to the rest of the world. I look forward to his visit here on May 18.

But there are also reasons to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began with religious rivalry. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic interests. In Algeria, violence continues to take its deadly toll. There are penalties imposed upon women in Afghanistan. And there are still too many countries in the Muslim world – stretching from Mauritania to Malaysia – with pockets of desperate poverty. Let's face it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.

A key source of tension between the United States and the Muslim world is the ongoing situation with Iraqi sanctions. It is a frustrating situation for everyone believes that the Iraqi people deserve a chance to lead better lives. But those sanctions remain in place for a specific reason – they have deprived Saddam Hussein of $120 billion of oil revenue he would have used to rebuild his arsenal and attack his neighbors. He certainly would not have used it to help the people he has gassed, terrorized and suppressed since coming to power. He had access to oil-for-food beginning in 1991. The United States formally proposed it as UNSCR 686 in 1995. But Saddam refused to act on it until 1996. We want to do whatever is necessary to meet the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people, and we are willing to resume oil-for-food accordingly. We have never sought to hurt an innocent people – we have only tried to stop Saddam from inflicting more unnecessary pain on them.
The way these troubled places define their future, for better or worse, will determine much of the character of the next century. If we work hard to nurture the good developments, and to give problems the consideration they deserve, we can get rid of the clash of civilizations theory once and for all. In the process, we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our own history: people of different faiths have to coexist, even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places struggling to learn that lesson: The more we unite here, the more we will unite everywhere. If we deprive a people of their humanity based on their religion, that is an ethnicity cannot be permitted to succeed if we are to enter a new century less bloody than the one we are leaving.

I do not pretend for a moment to be an expert on the Koran, but I know that Islam, like all great religions, places a high value on the sense that each person is part of a larger community. That we are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know. That we are ennobled by our respect for each other, no matter how dissimilar we appear on the surface. One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, royalty and commoners. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass of humanity, joined in bereavement for a life that stood for our capacity to overcome the boundaries that divided us.

That day marked the end of an era stretching back across nine presidencies — an era of great progress, but also of too much tension between the world's Muslims and the United States. A new era is beginning, marked not only by a change in a calendar — not only by new ways to communicate — but by a confluence of events that has brought Muslim nations and the United
States together for the same good reasons in Kosovo. Together, we are protecting the right of a people to inhabit not only their homes, but their interpretation of the house of God as well.

We must seize this opportunity to learn from upon our history. The President has often noted the paradox that our supremely modern global civilization is still bedeviled by ancient animosities. Nothing our species has conceived of is more profound than our soaring capacity to imagine a divine being - and nothing has done more to divide us than religion. Millennium or no millennium, the time has come to live up to our modernity by wrestling with our oldest problem. The best way to do so is by acknowledging our shortcomings, and resolving not to let the distance before us prevent us from beginning anew.
SAMUEL R. BERGER
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
REMARKS BEFORE AMERICAN MUSLIM COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MAY 7, 1999

I’m delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world – a relationship that has received too little attention among foreign policy elites. [FYI: Malley says either spelling OK; normal pronunciation OK, too]

I’m proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, as a general rule, I think it’s important for the President’s foreign policy advisers to meet representatives of ethnic and religious groups in the United States. You understand the immediate impact of our policy in foreign countries. Your approval of what we do – or at least, your clear understanding of our thinking – strengthens our policy, broadens its support, and increases its likelihood of success.

One of the most positive forces for a principled, purposeful American foreign policy is the engagement of Americans with roots overseas.

I am also proud to speak to you because American Muslims are have a critically important role to play as a bridge between the United States and the Muslim world. Our relationship with the Islamic community is vital to almost everything we are trying to do, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way toward deepening the relationship – but we have a long way still ahead.
From the time President Clinton took the oath of office, this Administration has reached out to Muslims. The President's respect for Islam proceeds from a basic grasp of two facts. One, that any group that constitutes a quarter of the world's population will play an extremely important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, that Muslims are rapidly redefining our own nation. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by some six million Americans, in over 1200 mosques and Islamic centers.

The President and First Lady have acted on this respect in a number of ways. They have each traveled extensively to Muslim nations, from Indonesia to Central Asia to Africa. Last December the President made a historic address to the Palestinian National Council in Gaza. There are Muslims throughout the Administration, beginning in the Cabinet (Shalala), and we are determined to do still more to make the Administration resemble America. Muslim chaplains have been appointed to the military. USIA has reached out to Muslim audiences through broadcasts and speaker programs.

Importantly, the President has made a point to move beyond the old stereotypes of Islam, both in his aggressive search for peace in the Middle East, and in his public statements. Last September, he gave the keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans mistakenly link to Islam. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that "there is no contradiction between Islam and America."
Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President’s insistence that Palestinians be treated as full partners. In November, he proposed sending $400 million over three years to the Palestinian people as part of the Wye Supplemental. Just last week, he wrote to Chairman Arafat and reaffirmed our support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their own land. We have also committed to bolster Jordan’s economy as it undergoes a transition to new leader.

Clearly, Bosnia and Kosovo have refuted the old claim that Islam and the West are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people – no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations – just a clash of values between those who seek a future of peace and prosperity and those who gain and maintain power by resorting to violence and hatred. We are not fighting for Muslims against Orthodox Christians in Kosovo – we are fighting against the notion that at the end of the 20th century, people can be singled out for destruction and expulsion because of their faith or heritage. Two days ago, at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany, the President said that kind of policy “makes life unbearable and civilization impossible.” That is why we have opposed violence against Kurds in Iraq, against Muslims in Bosnia, against Serbs in Krajina, and now against Albanians in Kosovo.

I heard some heart-rending stories yesterday at a Kosovar refugee center in Germany. Women raped. Men rounded up to be killed and burned. Perhaps the most eloquent statement came from a young man who took the microphone, paused for a long time to compose himself, and then sat
back down in tears. "I cannot talk about Kosovo," he said sadly. These emotionally battered survivors reaffirm our determination to restore decent lives to a people whose only crime is that they want to enjoy their culture and their faith. We will not rest until the Serb forces have withdrawn from Kosovo, the refugees have returned home, and an international security force is in place to protect ethnic Serbs and Albanians alike. Nineteen allies, from across Europe and North America, with different political cultures and different relationships to the Balkans, are in complete agreement: We must do right by the people of Kosovo, if we are to do right by the generation before us who fought fascism and the generation of our children who deserve a different future.

The Kosovo conflict has been agonizing for all parties involved – though we should remember it took four years to build an allied consensus in Bosnia, after 250,000 people had died. We in the Administration are working closely with Islamic nations to address the urgent needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Quatar, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Turkey – which has taken in more refugees than any non-frontline state. That generosity has stirred the world.

It's undeniable that stereotypes still endure. Images of America as anti-Muslim and anti-Arab still provoke the Muslim world; images of Islam as a hotbed of fanaticism and terrorism remain here. There has been plenty of misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. Now we must forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and
cooperation. That is the wave of the future. It must include people from the entire world, irrespective of religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

Many Islamic nations continue to doubt our intentions. But increasingly, they realize that the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan do not stick. The United States believes that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves – and we are eager to help Muslim nations test that belief on their own terms.

As you know all too well, many Americans are also naïve about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform, or confined to the Middle East, or absent from the United States. Of course, none of these are true. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be arrested for refusing to wear a veil in Afghanistan. Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different … Jordan and Syria … Syria and Iraq … Iraq and Iran. Simplistic images lead to simplistic policies – we need to deal with the world as it is.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. It is a future that could go in several directions. We can see enormous potential for Muslim nations across the world. Despite huge challenges, and ongoing violence, Indonesia has a chance to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. Nigeria, a partly Muslim nation, is also preparing for a historic transition. Morocco is making progress toward democracy. In Iran, we see and hear the rising voices of reform. In Jordan, King Abdullah, who will fill his father’s
large shoes well, has acted quickly to strengthen his nation's economy and improve its ties to the
rest of the world. I look forward to his visit here on May 18.

But there are also reasons to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began
with religious rivalry. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic
interests. In Algeria, violence continues to take its deadly toll. There are terrible penalties
imposed upon women in Afghanistan. And there are still too many countries in the Muslim
world – stretching from Mauritania to Malaysia – with pockets of desperate poverty. Let’s face
it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.

A key source of tension between the United States and the Muslim world is the ongoing situation
with Iraqi sanctions. It is a frustrating situation for everyone believes that the Iraqi people
deserve a chance to lead better lives. But those sanctions remain in place for a specific reason –
they have deprived Saddam Hussein of $120 billion of oil revenue he would have used to rebuild
his arsenal and attack his neighbors. He certainly would not have used it to help the people he
has gassed, terrorized and suppressed since coming to power. He had access to oil-for-food
beginning in 1991. The United States formally proposed it as UNSCR 986 in 1995. But Saddam
refused to act on it until 1996. We want to do whatever is necessary to meet the humanitarian
needs of the Iraqi people, and we are willing to revise oil-for-food accordingly. We have never
sought to hurt an innocent people – we have only tried to stop Saddam from inflicting more
unnecessary pain on them.
The way these troubled places define their future, for better or worse, will determine much of the character of the next century. If we work hard to nurture the good developments, and to give problems the consideration they deserve, we can get rid of the clash of civilizations theory once and for all. In the process, we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our own history: people of different faiths have to coexist, even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places struggling to learn that lesson. The more we unite there, the more we will unite everywhere.

I do not pretend for a moment to be an expert on the Koran, but I know that Islam, like all great religions, places a high value on the sense that each person is part of a larger community. That we are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know. That we are ennobled by our respect for each other, no matter how dissimilar we appear on the surface. One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, royalty and commoners. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass of humanity, joined in bereavement for a life that had helped them to blur some of the boundaries they knew too well.

That day marked the end of an era stretching back across nine presidencies – an era of great progress, but also of too much tension between the world’s Muslims and the United States. A new era is beginning, marked not only by a change in a calendar – not only by new ways to communicate – but by a confluence of events that has brought Muslim nations and the United
States together for the same good reasons in Kosovo. Together, we are protecting the right of a people to inhabit not only their homes, but their interpretation of the house of God as well.

We must seize this opportunity to improve upon our history. The President has often noted the paradox that our supremely modern global civilization is still bedeviled by ancient animosities. Nothing our species has conceived of is more profound than our soaring capacity to imagine a divine being - and nothing has done more to divide us than religion. Millennium or no millennium, the time has come to live up to our modernity by wrestling with our oldest problem. The best way to do so is by acknowledging our shortcomings, and resolving not to let the distance before us prevent us from beginning anew.

###
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
<th>SUBJECT/TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RESTRICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001. speech</td>
<td>re: Samuel R. Berger - Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs - Remarks Before American Muslim Council - Washington, D.C. (with extensive comments) (7 pages)</td>
<td>05/07/1999</td>
<td>P5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**
- Clinton Presidential Records
- National Security Council
- Ted Widmer (Speechwriting)
- OA/Box Number: 2188

**FOLDER TITLE:**
- Samuel R. Berger (SRB) - American Muslim Council (AMC), 5/2/1999

**RESTRICTION CODES**

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**
- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 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.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

**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(5) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) 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]
I'm delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world— a relationship that has received too little attention among foreign policy elites. [FYI: Malley prefers “Moslem”; but the group spells it “Muslim”— my understanding is best pronunciation is muss(rhymes with puss)-lim]

I'm proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, as a general rule, I think it's important for the President's foreign policy advisers to meet representatives of ethnic and religious groups in the United States. You understand the immediate impact of our policy in foreign countries. Your approval of what we do— or at least, your clear understanding of our motive— strengthens our policy, broadens its support, and increases its likelihood of success.

I am also proud to speak to you because American Muslims are have a critically important role to play as a bridge between the United States and the Muslim world. Our relationship with the Islamic community is vital to all that we are trying to do, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way toward deepening the relationship— but we have a long way still ahead. People like you, with loyalties to both the United States and Islam, can do a great deal to make it work.
From the time President Clinton took the oath of office, this Administration has reached out to Muslims. The President’s respect for Islam proceeds from a basic grasp of two indisputable facts. One, that Muslims constitute a major part of the world community, and will play an extremely important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, that Muslims are also rapidly redefining our own nation. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by six million Americans.

The President and First Lady have acted on this belief in a number of ways. Foreign policy makers both here and at the State Department have increased meetings with Muslim groups. USIA has reached out to Muslim audiences through broadcasts and speaker programs. The First Lady has traveled extensively throughout the Muslim world, including her recent trip to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. Muslim chaplains have been appointed to the military. Two days ago, Dr. Laila Al-Marayati was announced as one of three Presidential appointments to the nine-member Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Importantly, the President has made a point to move beyond the old stereotypes of Islam, both in his aggressive search for peace in the Middle East, and in his public statements. Last September, he gave the keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans link to Islam. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that the problem should not be blamed on the Islamic community. That, in fact, the more we try to work with Muslims, to understand their legitimate grievances, the more we can all work together to avoid terrorism in the future.
Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President’s insistence that Palestinians be treated as full partners. In January, he promised economic assistance to the Palestinian people at a conference on donors to the Middle East. Just last week, he wrote to Chairman Arafat and reaffirmed our support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their own land. We have also committed to bolster Jordan’s economy as it undergoes a transition to new leader.

More than any other issue, Kosovo has refuted the tired old claim that the West and Islam are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people – no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations – just a clash of values between those who believe in a future of hope and peace and prosperity and those who resort to violence and hatred.

The Kosovo conflict has been difficult for all parties involved, but I hope that Muslims around the world will take this lesson to heart long after the conflict ends. We in the Administration are working closely with Islamic nations to address the urgent needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Quatar, Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh. That generosity has stirred the world.
It’s undeniable that stereotypes still endure. Images of the America as anti-Muslim and anti-Arab remain on their part; images of Islam as a hotbed of fanaticism and terrorism remain on ours – stoked by the occasional wildly inaccurate Hollywood film. These distorted images are based on misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. Now we must forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and cooperation. That is the wave of the future. It must include people from the entire world, irrespective of religion, nationality or ethnic origin.

Many Islamic nations continue to doubt our intentions. But increasingly, they realize that the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan do not stick. True, the United States strongly believes that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves. But we have no interest in forcing the nations of the Islamic world to absorb everything American. We do not want a world of replicas, but a planet where all people are free to create their own worlds. We want them to move forward for their sake – and ours. Because an enlightened, self-confident population is a population likely to join us in trade, in peacekeeping, and in common endeavors like the protection of the environment, the fight against dangerous weapons, and the pursuit of terrorists. Economies and societies of the future will be driven by access to information – that’s not a theory, it is a fact.

As you know all too well, many Americans are also naïve about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform, or confined to the Middle East, or absent from the United States. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be arrested for refusing to wear one in Afghanistan.
Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different … Jordan and Syria … Syria and Iraq … Iraq and Iran.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. It is a future that could go in several directions. Those of us who are hopeful can see enormous potential for Muslims everywhere. Indonesia is poised to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. Morocco is engaged in an unprecedented democratic experience. In Iran, we see and hear the rising voices of reform. Libya delivered the Lockerbie suspects. In Jordan, King Abdullah has acted quickly to strengthen his nation’s economy and improve its ties to the rest of the world. I look forward to his visit here on May 18, when we will discuss all of these optimistic signs.

But those who are fearful can see plenty of reason to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began with religious rivalry. Iraq continues to be contemptuous of the world community. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic interests. In Algeria, violence continues to take its deadly toll. There are terrible penalties imposed upon women in Afghanistan. Democracy and pluralism remain in short supply in the Arab world. And let’s face it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.

All these places, for good or ill, are crucibles of the world of the next century. If we work hard to nurture the good developments, and to give problems the consideration they deserve, we can get rid of the clash of civilizations theory once and for all. In the process, we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our own history: people of different faiths have to coexist,
even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places struggling to learn that lesson. The more we unite there, the more we will unite everywhere.

I do not pretend for a moment to be an expert on the Koran, but I know that Islam, like all great religions, places a high value on the sense that each person is part of a larger community. That we are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know. That we are ennobled by our respect for each other, no matter how dissimilar we appear on the surface. One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, royalty and commoners [except no women!]. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass of humanity, joined in bereavement for a life that had helped them to blur some of the boundaries they knew too well.

I cannot promise we will easily simulate that feeling anytime soon in the Middle East. The divisions run deep. But still, there is much we can do to improve the relationship between the United States and Islam, beginning here at home ... beginning today with an acknowledgment of this Administration’s gratitude for all that the American Muslim Council has done and will continue to do.

###
Some comments attached.

Overall, I think you are right that this is not typical SRB material but this is not an easy speech to write in any event.

My real concern is that the message on Islam sound at times a bit too patronizing. I think you would be better off cutting quite a bit from that and focusing more on what is at stake in Kosovo, using our standard stuff, but adding in the bit about non-clash of civilizations.

I think a shorter speech shouldn't be a problem in any event. If you have access to a phone, that would be great!

Good luck, and let's talk.

---Original Message---

Rob--would appreciate a quick look. I typed this out on my own without any experts to draw from, so it may have a few errors. Also might be a little touchy feely for SRB, so if you can think of facts and stats, that would help. Thanks. They're gonna be here in about 45 minutes, and will want to get into this.
I’m delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world—a relationship that has traditionally received too little attention among foreign policy elites.

I’m proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, I think it’s important for the President’s foreign policy advisers to meet with representatives of ethnic groups in the United States. There is a traditional Beltway belief that ethnic groups should not have a role in our foreign policy—I strongly disagree. The more Americans who care about the rest of the world, the better. (Not sure this works—it is too direct. I would make the point that it is important to meet because we need to talk to and hear from all groups within American society. This strengthens our foreign policy, broadens its basis of support, and ensures that it reflects the sensitivities of all our people. American Muslims, a growing segment of our society, have a particularly important role to play as a bridge between the US and the Moslem world.)

I am also proud to speak to you because I believe that only by strengthening and deepening the relationship between the United States and Islam can we succeed in what we are seeking to do around the world: vital to all that we are trying to do in the world, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way toward renewing this relationship and overcoming many of the stereotypes that have plagued this relationship in the past—but we have a long way still. People like you, with loyalties to both the United States and Islam, can do a great deal to make this relationship work.

From the time it came into office, the Clinton Administration has sought to reach out to the Muslim community in more ways than any other. The President’s respect for Islam and his desire to renew our ties is not just altruism; it proceeds from (common sense—what does that mean?) and a basic grasp of two indisputable facts. One, that people of the Islamic faith constitutes a major part of the world community, and will play an extremely important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, that Islam is also rapidly redefining our own nation. It is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by six million Americans.

And importantly, the President has made a point to treat Islam with the respect it deserves in major policy speeches, including his keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations
General Assembly last September. (Ted – don’t think this works. Sound a bit patronizing. I would not say that the President treats Islam with the respect it deserves. Rather, if you want to say this, you should just repeat what President says without editorializing) In that speech, he broke new ground. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans link to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that the problem should not be blamed on the Islamic world. That, in fact, the more we try to work with the people of that world, to understand their legitimate grievances, the more we can all work together to avoid terrorism in the future.

Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President’s insistence that Palestinians be treated like full partners. In January, he promised economic assistance to the Palestinian people at a conference on donors to the Middle East. Just last week, he wrote to Chairman Arafat and reaffirmed our support for the aspirations of the Palestinian people to determine their own future on their land.

And of course, more than any other issue, Kosovo has refuted the tired old claim that the West and Islam are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western nations and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people – no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations – just a clash of values between those who believe in a future of hope and peace and prosperity and those who resort to violence and hatred.

The Kosovo conflict has been difficult for all parties involved, but I hope that Moslems around the world the people of Islam will take this lesson to heart long after the conflict ends. We in the Administration have been encouraged (? Not right tone. We are not “encouraged” – point is that US has been working hand in hand with islamic nations ) by the strong response of Islamic nations to the needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iran. That generosity has stirred the world, and helped us to realize we are in the same fight together.

Now, it’s undeniable that stereotypes still endure. Images of an anti-Islamic, anti-Arab imperial United States remain on their part; images of Islam as a hotbed of religious fanaticism and terrorism on ours. A perception still exists that the United States does not take the Muslim world as seriously as it ought to. I believe these are based on a perception is based on misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. There have been plenty of mistakes – what is important is to forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and cooperation.

That is the wave of the future. The United States is leading that wave. And we But we strongly want to join in this with people from around the world, irrespective of creed, nationality or ethnic origin. Other countries to join us – including the nations of Islam. It is in all of our interest to find sources of harmony in the new century we will both shape.
First, we need to learn more about each other. Many Islamic nations resist American overtures continue to doubt our intentions. But increasingly, they realize that the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan do not stick. True, the US strongly believes wants each nation to discover what we have discovered—that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves. But we have no interest in forcing the nations of the Islamic world to absorb everything American. That would be a cultural catastrophe. We do not want to build a world of replicas, but a planet where all people are free to create their own worlds.

We want every nation to do as its people want to, with full respect for ancient cultural and religious traditions. We want them to move forward for their sake—and ours. Because an enlightened, self-confident population is a population likely to join us in trade, in peacekeeping, and in common endeavors like the protection of the environment, the fight against dangerous weapons, and the control of terrorism. Economies and societies of the future will be driven by access to information—that’s not a theory, it is a fact.

As you know all too well, many Americans are also naïve about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform across the enormous swath of territory where it is primarily practiced, from Northern Africa to the Southwest Pacific. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be arrested for refusing to wear one in Afghanistan. Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different...Jordan and Syria...Syria and Iraq...Iraq and Iran.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. And it is a future that could go in several directions. Those of us who are hopeful can see enormous potential. (Are you limited to Moslem world? I think you probably should) Indonesia is poised to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. South Africa and Nigeria are preparing for democratic transitions, which we hope will increase tolerance for religious diversity in Africa. Algeria may be emerging from its long nightmare. (South Africa not predominantly Moslem; Algeria point is not accurate) Morocco is engaged in an unprecedented democratic experience. In Iran, we hear and see the rising voices of reform. In Jordan, King Abdullah has acted quickly to strengthen his nation’s economy and improve its ties to the rest of the Arab world. Libya delivered the Lockerbie suspects. Mozambique has a growing economy. The nations of Central Asia continue to move forward. The Wye Peace process endures, though it is often frustratingly slow.

But those of us who are also fearful can see plenty of reason to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began with religious rivalry. In Iran and Iraq continues to be dominated by an old-guard regimes contemptuous of the world community. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic interests. In Algeria, violence continues to take its deadly toll. There are terrible penalties imposed upon women in Afghanistan. Democracy and pluralism remain in short supply in the Many Arab worldnations lag behind western nations, and do not even come close to Western standards of participatory democracy and information flow. And let’s face it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.
All these places, for good or ill, are crucial to the world of the next century. If we work hard to
nurture the good developments, and to give problems the consideration they deserve, I believe
we can make the clash of civilization theory a~ irrelevant as the dodo bird. In the process,
we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our history: people of different
faiths have to coexist, even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the
reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places
struggling to learn that lesson. And the more we unite in that one proving ground, the more we
will unite everywhere.

Some of our actions over the last few years have been directed against Islamic nations. Others
against people who persecute Muslims. All have had this in common: the United States wants
to build a world where different people can live in peace, without fear, without privation, without
weapons of mass destruction, without the hopelessness that leads people to commit violence.

I do not pretend for a moment to be able to interpret the Koran, but I know that at the heart of
Islam, like all religions, is a sense that each individual is part of a larger community ... that we
are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know, and our respect for each other, no matter
how dissimilar we may appear on the surface.

One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein
last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, Moslem and non-Moslem alike, royalty
and commoners [except no women were allowed]. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass of
humanity, joined in bereavement for a life that had helped all of them to blur some of the
boundaries they knew all too well.

I do not believe we can easily simulate that feeling anytime soon in the Middle East. The
divisions still run very deep in many places. But we can take the simple step of improving the
relationship between the United States and Islam ... beginning with an acknowledgment of this
Administration’s gratitude for all that the American Muslim Council has done toward this
worthy end.
Tom, Ted: the WH issued a press release today announcing that the President has named his three appointees to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

1. Firuz Kazemzadeh (Baha'i/not Muslim)
2. Justice Charles Z. Smith
3. Dr. Laila Al-Marayati, founding member and past president of the Muslim Women's League and founder of the Women's Coalition Against Ethnic Cleansing.

Sandy's remarks to the AMC should reference POTUS' intention to appoint Dr. Al-Marayati.

thanks.

SN

-----Original Message-----
From: Naplan, Steven J.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 10:01 AM
To: @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @ADHOC KOSOVO; @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor; @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: RE: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Tom, Ted: please include a placeholder for Sandy to note that one of the three POTUS appointees to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom is an American Muslim, Dr. Laila Al-Marayati (assuming the WH press release announcing the three appointees goes out by then - as is likely. I'll advise.)

SN

-----Original Message-----
From: Malley, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:47 AM
To: Malinowski, Tomasz P.; Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters; @KOSOVO
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Sorry. Hadn't seen your e-mail.

Our view is that remarks should focus on Kosovo and make the point this is not a clash of civilizations but a clash of values.

-----Original Message-----
From: Malinowski, Tomasz P.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:47 AM
To: Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Ted will be riding back on AF1 and working the remarks with Sandy. Please get him any input and points by the time of our departure today.

-----Original Message-----
From: Sutphen, Mona K.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:45 AM
To: @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Bruce/Matt/Tom -

As you know, SRB is supposed to address the American Muslim Council this Friday -- 10 minute remarks + Q+A. Since SRB will be on the trip until late Thursday nite, we will need to get a package to him on the
road. He'll need draft remarks in time for the return flight (10:00 a.m. Thursday)- as well as a good Q+A package on some of our favorite topics (al Shifa, Iraq, etc.). Let me know if this presents a problem.

Mona
FRANKFURT, GERMANY

Current conditions

**Time:** 11:00 am GMT  
**Temperature:** 68°F (20°C)  
**Heat index:**  
**Dewpoint:** 41°F (5°C)  
**Relative humidity:** 35%  
**Visibility:** 10 miles (16 km)  
**Wind speed:** 8 mph (13 km/h)  
**Wind direction:** NE

Forecast

**MONDAY:** Sunny skies are expected. The high temperature will be 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 degrees Celsius), and the overnight low will be 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius).

**TUESDAY:** Clear skies are expected. The high temperature will be 75 degrees Fahrenheit (24 degrees Celsius), and the overnight low will be 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7 degrees Celsius).

**WEDNESDAY:** Skies should be cloudy. The high temperature will be 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 degrees Celsius), and the overnight low will be 50 degrees Fahrenheit (10 degrees Celsius).

**THURSDAY:** Partly cloudy. The high temperature will be 72 degrees Fahrenheit (22 degrees Celsius), and the overnight low will be 55 degrees Fahrenheit (13 degrees Celsius).

**FRIDAY:** Expect partly cloudy skies. The high temperature will be
North Sea

SOUTH

Indonesia

There are difficulties

1104 Kay

Dublin, 8/0

Ira, war, veg. (cr. money)

UAE, veg, camp

Egypt, pro

New Queen, Jordan, West, seat, 6

Malaysia?

top, level

CIC resolution on, K, 12 UNHRC minister's
trek, vs., passed 4/4, 0

State

George Pwolick
647-0757

MIT 5/4 A15

Tribunal, Herve Kabacki

Food, page

were head, say in, Iran

some force, danger, her opposed

within Party
Ted - a packet of info that Scott Busby has with him from DoD contains figures on all donor assistance to Kosovar refugees, including Islamic states. But to summarize:

(Note - while not always indicated in the info that I have, it seems assistance from Islamic states has mostly, if not all, been for Albania.

Egypt -
- 30 tons of food, clothing and shoes provided by Red Crescent under auspices of Mrs. Mubarak. Egypt air provided transport on 4/26.
- Medical/surgical team accompanied by MOH.
- $150,000/34 tons assistance delivered to Tirana, including 310 boxes of med supplies, 4.5 tons condensed milk, 500 boxes canned food, 1000 blankets.
- Group of physicians sent 30 metric tons (MT) medical supplies to Albania for distribution by Islamic relief organization. Sending subsequent 40 MT donation.

Iran
- 50 tons food, health supplies, tents, blankets, factory-made carpets.

Jordan
- 20 tons humanitarian supplies delivered personally by Queen Raina on 4/8, including 2 planeloads of tents, blankets, medicine, food, child-care products.
- 20 Army medical personnel (8 doctors, 12 nurses) attached to UAE unit in Albania, will deploy early May.

Kuwait
- $1 million donated by Emir for relief efforts.
- 2 plane loads and a ship (200 tons) of relief supplies to be shipped early May to Albania. One paid for by Emir and other by Red Crescent.
- $13 million raised by private fund raising.
- 4 747s (120 tons) relief supplies and food; 1 747 (37 tons) with Red Crescent donations.
- 7 tons food.
- 9 tons shelter equipment.
- 7 tons bedding.
- 7 tons medical equipment.

Qatar
- 25 tons of food, 7 ton support equipment (don't know what this means).

Saudi Arabia
- 132 tons (2 planes) food, med supplies, tents, clothing, blankets to Albania.
- 300 tons of medical aid and supplies (inc. two Saudi Royal Air Force deliveries so far).
- Saudi Red Crescent plans to set up 50-bed mobile hospital and 10 health centers in Tirana and other areas. Saudis will provide medical experts to staff it.
- Plan to set up camp for 5000 refugees in Albania (est. cost $500,000).
- $4 million in cash, $9 million in food, medicine, tents and clothing from Muslim World League.
- $12 million in supplies (blankets and other non food items) from International Islamic Relief Organization.
- $133,000 for construction and operation of health center donated by the Prince Sultan Charitable Foundation.
- 2000 tons of dates ordered sent by King Fahd on 4/10, but not shipped yet.

UAE
- 80 tons/3 planeloads blankets, medicines, food, other supplies.
- 200-bed hospital, fully staffed.
- 3 field kitchens.
- 150,000 tons fresh food (flour, dates, rice) to Kukes, Albania.
- 150,000 tons packaged food to Kukes.
- 400 tents to Kukes.
- $20 million cash.
- Plan to refurbish Kukes airfield to support C-130s.
• Providing helicopters to support relief effort
Points for Possible Tough Kosovo-Related Questions
From Albanian and Macedonian Journalists

Albania

Q: The Serbs continue to lob shells across the border into Albania. Some Albanian villages near the border have been attacked by Serb ground forces. What is NATO prepared to do about this? Will these provocations escalate when the Apache helicopters start their operations?

• We have been watching the situation in the border region with Kosovo very closely.

• At the NATO Summit two weeks ago, we and our Allies reaffirmed our support for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all countries in the region.

• We and our Allies also put Milosevic on notice that we will not tolerate Serbian threats to the security of neighboring states, including Albania. We made clear that if Belgrade challenges the security of its neighbors as a result of the presence or activities of NATO forces on their territories, we will respond.

• We reserve the right to decide how and when we might respond to any specific challenge. But I would note that NATO is increasing attacks on Serb forces operating in Kosovo.

• The presence of over 6,000 NATO troops and a growing array of weaponry, including Task Force HAWK, with Apache helicopters and surface-to-surface missile systems, should give the Serbs pause about attacks into Albania.

Q: Albania has taken in over 400,000 refugees from Kosovo, more than a twelve percent increase in population. Albania is a very poor country. What more can we expect in assistance from the United States and the international community?

• The United States has provided almost $188 million in humanitarian assistance to respond to the Kosovo crisis since March 1998, including about $88 million over the last month. A large percentage of this assistance has gone to Albania.

• The good part of the $721 million for humanitarian uses in the Kosovo emergency funding package that I submitted to the Congress will support relief efforts in Albania.

• NATO military forces are also supporting relief efforts. As of late April, NATO forces in Albania and Macedonia had delivered 11,000 tons of aid and 716 tons of medical supplies. Our Defense Department is building a camp in Albania to host up to 20,000 refugees, which should be ready shortly.
• We and various European countries are also welcoming Kosovar refugees. We remain committed to bringing 20,000 people to the U.S.; my wife will greet the first group of refugees to arrive in the U.S. on March 5.

• We are also working closely with EU governments and the International Financial Institutions to address Albania’s immediate and longer-term needs. We have made significant pledges to help with additional near-term humanitarian and financial needs at a March 5 donor’s conference. Next, we are committed shaping a comprehensive strategy for development of Southeast Europe that will help advance your long-term prosperity and integration.

Macedonia

Q: Macedonia has made enormous sacrifices to support NATO military operations and refugee relief efforts. Our economy, which was starting to grow is now declining, and we risk reprisals by Serbia and long-term insecurity. Many people ask, what is NATO and the United States doing for Macedonia?

• As I made clear to President Gligorov when we met at the White House last week, I fully appreciate the burdens this conflict has placed on Macedonia. Americans are greatly impressed with your government’s heroic support for NATO and with the selfless efforts of Macedonian people to accept and care for Kosovar refugees.

• I also underscored to President Gligorov -- and to Prime Minister Georgievski in a letter last month -- that we will not let Macedonia stand alone to deal with this crisis or its aftermath.

• I am determined to bring this conflict to a close as quickly as possible in a way that preserves the legitimate rights of the people of Kosovo and promotes stability, prosperity and integration for Macedonia and the other democracies in Southeast Europe.

On the humanitarian and economic fronts

• The United States has provided almost $188 million in humanitarian assistance to respond to the Kosovo crisis since March 1998, including an estimated $88 million over the last month. About a third of this assistance has gone to Macedonia.

• The United States has provided a variety of assistance, most of it through UNHCR and NGOs, to establish and manage refugee relief in Macedonia. NATO, including U.S. forces, have played a critical role in establishing and supporting the refugee camps in Macedonia.

• We have also been encouraging European governments to activate plans to take refugees from Macedonia and remain committed to bringing 20,000 people to the U.S., the first of whom will arrive on March 5.
-- Our Defense Department is building a camp in Albania to host up to 20,000 refugees, including refugees currently in Macedonia. It should be ready to take the initial group soon.

- We are working closely with EU governments and the International Financial Institutions to address Macedonia’s immediate and longer-term needs. We have made significant pledges to help with additional near-term humanitarian and financial needs at a March 5 donor’s conference. Next, we are committed to shaping a comprehensive strategy for development of Southeast Europe that will help advance your long-term prosperity and integration.

On the security front

- The NATO Summit turned out very well for Macedonia.
  
  -- Allies commended Macedonia’s contributions to mutual security and progress on reforms.

  -- NATO leaders underscored that we will not tolerate Serbian threats to the security of neighboring states, including Macedonia. We made clear that if Belgrade challenges the security of its neighbors as a result of the presence or activities of NATO forces on their territories, we will respond.

  -- The Membership Action Plan and a review date no later than 2002 were also big steps forward, assuring Macedonia that we and our allies are concerned about your long-term security and want your country to become the best possible candidate for NATO membership.

  -- There are several other Summit initiatives that benefit Macedonia including increased consultations with NATO, enhanced PFP activities and better coordination of national security assistance.

- My Administration is also working with Congress to secure significant additional security assistance for the training and development of the Macedonian armed forces. This would more than double our security assistance.

- In sum, our efforts seek to help Macedonia cope with the burdens and dislocation of the Kosovo crisis, enhance its security, and advance its development and integration.
Widmer, Edward L. (Ted)

From: Halperin, David E.
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 1999 10:36 AM
To: Widmer, Edward L. (Ted)
Cc: Malley, Robert; Naplan, Steven J.; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Subject: Islam info [UNCLASSIFIED]

Ted -- mail from Maureen Shea of OPL:

Record Type: Record
From: Maureen Shea
To: Christine A. Stanek/WHO/EOP, David Halperin/NSC/EOP
cc: Subject: Re: Islam information

Hope this is what you need -if not let me know X62721.

Muslim Outreach:

Overall: This Administration is very appreciative of the contributions of Muslim Americans. We have included them in an unprecedented degree in meetings and outreach and worked closely with their major organizations, including the American Muslim Council, the Muslim Public Affairs Committee, and the Islamic Society of North America. The State Department has begun regular meetings with Muslim Americans and USIA has made special efforts to reach Muslim audiences through their broadcasts, visitors, and speakers programs, including distribution to foreign press and contacts of American press articles on local Muslim communities. USIA has also sponsored a home page on Islam in America.

First Lady: The First Lady has made a special effort to meet Muslims, both in her travels at home and abroad. On her recent trip to Morocco, Egypt, and Tunisia she made special stops at Islamic historic sites. In the United States, she has held two Eid-al-Fitr (end of Ramadan) celebrations in the Indian Treaty Room - 1997 and 1999.

Appointments:

Muslim chaplains appointed within the military.

Dr. Laila Al-Marayati - will be announced today (Wednesday) as one of three Presidential appointments to the nine person Commission on International Religious Freedom

Hassan Nemazee nominated Ambassador for Argentina (note - nomination is in trouble)
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO POOL SPRAY FOLLOWING MEETING WITH CHANCELLOR
GERHARD SCHROEDER
BONN, GERMANY
MAY 6, 1999

• I enjoyed an excellent meeting with Chancellor Schroeder. We discussed ongoing developments in Kosovo and our near-term and long-term strategy for resolving the crisis. In particular, we resolved to maintain the pressure until the Kosovars are allowed to return home with dignity, security and self-government.

• I thanked the Chancellor for Germany's strong leadership among the Allies, both in military support for Operation Allied Force and humanitarian aid.

• Germany has generously taken in 10,000 refugees from Kosovo, the most of any Ally.

• In addition, Germany has offered $18.7 million in emergency humanitarian funding, to help pay for supplies like tents, food, water, and medicine.

• We will work with our Allies to provide shelter for the displaced refugees in all of our countries.

• I thanked the Chancellor for his hard work toward a settlement of the conflict based on compliance with NATO demands and consultation with Russia.

• The Chancellor and I also discussed our hopes for a comprehensive peace in Southeastern Europe, long after the conflict is resolved, a peace that will bring tolerance and prosperity to the entire region.

• Finally, I thanked Chancellor Schroeder for inviting me to Germany and I said how much I looked forward to our meetings at the G-8 and the US-EU Summit in June.
You'll get more from Christine, but off the top of my head:

-- Held first Id (religious holiday) celebrations at WH hosted by FLOTUS.

-- Made relations with Islam and Moslem world centerpiece of POTUS statement at UN and in other domestic speeches.

(Certainly NOT on appointments -- that is a huge and valid complaint)

Ted -- I will pass this message on to Christine by e-mail and I'll tell her it is urgent.

Rob, David: Can you guys help me with another question? I believe that the Clinton administration has reached out more to Muslims than any other -- what are the specifics? Appointments to high position in admin. or military; Presidential meetings and speeches; other examps? Maybe Christine Stanek of OPL has this info lying around somewhere. Thanks.
I'm delighted to speak before the American Muslim Council, and to discuss with you our vital relationship with the Muslim world – a relationship that has traditionally received too little attention among foreign policy elites.

I'm proud to speak with you today for a few reasons. First, I think it's important for the President's foreign policy advisers to meet with representatives of ethnic groups in the United States. There is a traditional Beltway belief that ethnic groups should not have a role in our foreign policy – I strongly disagree. The more Americans who care about the rest of the world, the better.

I am also proud to speak to you because I believe the relationship between the United States and Islam is vital to all that we are trying to do in the world, from Kosovo to the Middle East to Asia. We have come a long way – but we have a long way still. People like you, with loyalties to both the United States and Islam, can do a great deal to make this relationship work.

The Clinton Administration has reached out to the Muslim community in more ways than any other. The President's respect for Islam is not just altruism; it proceeds from common sense and a basic grasp of two indisputable facts. One, that Islam constitutes a major part of the world community, and will play an extremely important role in shaping the world of the next century. Two, that Islam is also rapidly redefining our own nation. It is the fastest growing religion in the United States, practiced by six million Americans.

Since the beginning of the Administration, the President and First Lady have acted on this belief in a number of ways. The State Department has held regular meetings with Muslim groups, and USIA has reached out to Muslim audiences through broadcasts and speaker programs. The First Lady has traveled extensively throughout the Islamic world, including her recent trip to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. The end of the Id-al-Fitr holiday has twice been celebrated at the White House. Muslim chaplains have been appointed to the military. Two days ago, Dr. Laila Al-Marayati was announced as one of three Presidential appointments to the nine-member Commission on International Religious Freedom.

And importantly, the President has made a point to treat Islam with the respect it deserves in major policy speeches, including his keynote speech at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly last September. In that speech, he broke new ground. The thrust of the speech concerned terrorism – a problem many Americans link to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. The President stated what has always been our position – that we abhor terrorism and its pursuit of innocent victims. But he went to great lengths to say that the problem should not be blamed on the Islamic world. That, in fact, the more we try to work with the people of that world, to understand their legitimate grievances, the more we can all work together to avoid terrorism in the future.

Since then, he has acted on those beliefs time and time again. The Wye agreement in October came about in no small measure because of the President's insistence that Palestinians be treated
like full partners. In January, he promised economic assistance to the Palestinian people at a conference on donors to the Middle East.

And of course, more than any other issue, Kosovo has refuted the tired old claim that the West and Islam are locked in a clash of civilizations. What Kosovo proves, beyond a doubt, is that Western nations and Islamic nations can unite to fight evil and protect innocent people – no matter what their background. There is no clash of civilizations – just a clash of values between those who believe in a future of hope and peace and prosperity and those who resort to violence and hatred.

The Kosovo conflict has been difficult for all parties involved, but I hope that the people of Islam will take this lesson to heart long after the conflict ends. We in the Administration have been encouraged by the strong response of Islamic nations to the needs of the Kosovar refugees. The contributions have come from all over – generous shipments of food, medicine and supplies from Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iran. That generosity has stirred the world, and helped us to realize we are in the same fight together.

Now, it’s undeniable that a perception still exists that the United States does not take the Muslim world as seriously as it ought to. I believe that perception is based on misunderstanding and miscommunication on both sides. There have been plenty of mistakes – what is important is to forge common cause for the things we all care about in the future: peace, self-respect, and cooperation.

That is the wave of the future. The United States is leading that wave. But we strongly want other countries to join us – including the nations of Islam. It is in all of our interest to find sources of harmony in the new century we will both shape.

First, we need to learn more about each other. Many Islamic nations resist American overtures. But increasingly, they realize that the old labels of hegemony and Great Satan do not stick. True, the US wants each nation to discover what we have discovered – that governments and economies work better when individuals are allowed to make political and economic decisions for themselves. But we have no interest in forcing the nations of the Islamic world to absorb everything American. That would be a cultural catastrophe. We do not want to build a world of replicas, but a planet where all people are free to create their own worlds.

We want every nation to do as its people want to, with full respect for ancient cultural and religious traditions. We want them to move forward for their sake – and ours. Because an enlightened, self-confident population is a population likely to join us in trade, in peacekeeping, and in common endeavors like the protection of the environment, the fight against dangerous weapons, and the control of terrorism. Economies and societies of the future will be driven by access to information – that’s not a theory, it is a fact.

As you know all too well, many Americans are also naïve about Islam. They think it is monolithic and uniform across the enormous swath of territory where it is primarily practiced, from Northern Africa to the Southwest Pacific. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. The same woman who might be arrested for wearing a headscarf in Turkey might be
arrested for refusing to wear one in Afghanistan. Malaysia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Algeria, and Senegal are worlds apart from each other. Even neighbors are very different ... Jordan and Syria ... Syria and Iraq ... Iraq and Iran.

To consider the nations of Islam, in all their diversity, is to contemplate the future of the world. And it is a future that could go in several directions. Those of us who are hopeful can see enormous potential. Indonesia is poised to embrace democracy and economic reform this summer. South Africa and Nigeria are preparing for democratic transitions, which we hope will increase tolerance for religious diversity in Africa. Algeria may be emerging from its long nightmare. Libya delivered the Lockerbie suspects. Mozambique has a growing economy. The nations of Central Asia continue to move forward. The Wye Peace process endures, though it is often frustratingly slow.

But those of us who are also fearful can see plenty of reason to be worried. The nuclear tension between Pakistan and India began with religious rivalry. Iran and Iraq continue to be dominated by old-guard regimes contemptuous of the world community. Central Asia is a volatile realm of competing political and economic interests. There are terrible penalties imposed upon women in Afghanistan. Many Arab nations lag behind western nations, and do not even come close to Western standards of participatory democracy and information flow. And let’s face it: another century of poverty will breed another century of hatred and terrorism.

All these places, for good or ill, are crucial to the world of the next century. If we work hard to nurture the good developments, and to give problems the consideration they deserve, I believe we can make the clash of civilization theory are irrelevant as the dodo bird. In the process, we will help ourselves, and we will relearn a crucial lesson of our history: people of different faiths have to coexist, even if they do not like everything about each other. That is one of the reasons Kosovo is so important. Because there are so many other people in other places struggling to learn that lesson. And the more we unite in that one proving ground, the more we will unite everywhere.

Some of our actions over the last few years have been directed against Islamic nations. Others against people who persecute Muslims. All have had this in common: the United States wants to build a world where different people can live in peace, without fear, without privation, without weapons of mass destruction, without the hopelessness that leads people to commit violence.

I do not pretend for a moment to be able to interpret the Koran, but I know that at the heart of Islam, like all religions, is a sense that each individual is part of a larger community ... that we are uplifted by our kindness to people we do not know, and our respect for each other, no matter how dissimilar we may appear on the surface.

One of the most unforgettable moments of an unforgettable year was the funeral of King Hussein last winter. People of all nations came to pay respect, Moslem and non-Moslem alike, royalty and commoners [except no women were allowed]. It was a remarkable spectacle ... a mass humanity, joined in bereavement for a life that had helped all of them to blur some of the boundaries they knew all too well.
I do not believe we can easily simulate that feeling anytime soon in the Middle East. The divisions still run very deep in many places. But we can take the simple step of improve the relationship between the United States and Islam ... beginning with an acknowledgment of this Administration’s gratitude for all that the American Muslim Council has done toward this worthy end.
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Randall Barnett

1. [Handwritten text]

2. [Handwritten text]

3. [Handwritten text]

4. [Handwritten text]

5. [Handwritten text]

6. [Handwritten text]

7. [Handwritten text]

8. [Handwritten text]

9. [Handwritten text]

10. [Handwritten text]

11. [Handwritten text]

12. [Handwritten text]

13. [Handwritten text]

14. [Handwritten text]

15. [Handwritten text]

16. [Handwritten text]

17. [Handwritten text]

18. [Handwritten text]

19. [Handwritten text]

20. [Handwritten text]
Great.

Ted -- Not sure you really need points from us other than generic (we have no issue with Islam, issue is those who distort religion, or nationalism, or ethnic feelings to suit their political interests), but let me know. Need to get Kosovo people to help out. I asked them last week; hope you will get what you need.

-----Original Message-----
From: Malinowski, Tomasz P.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:54 AM
To: Malley, Robert; Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA-NE/South Asia; @PRESS-Public Affairs; @SPEECH-NSC Speechwriters; @KOSOVO
Cc: @EXECSEC-Executive Secretary; @NSA-Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event-Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

That's exactly what we're planning to do.

-----Original Message-----
From: Malinowski, Tomasz P.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:47 AM
To: Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA-NE/South Asia; @PRESS-Public Affairs; @SPEECH-NSC Speechwriters; @KOSOVO
Cc: @EXECSEC-Executive Secretary; @NSA-Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event-Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Sorry. Hadn't seen your e-mail.

Our view is that remarks should focus on Kosovo and make the point this is not a clash of civilizations but a clash of values.

-----Original Message-----
From: Malinowski, Tomasz P.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:45 AM
To: Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA-NE/South Asia; @PRESS-Public Affairs; @SPEECH-NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC-Executive Secretary; @NSA-Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event-Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Ted will be riding back on AF1 and working the remarks with Sandy. Please get him any input and points by the time of our departure today.

-----Original Message-----
From: Sutphen, Mona K.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:45 AM
To: @NESASIA-NE/South Asia; @PRESS-Public Affairs; @SPEECH-NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC-Executive Secretary; @NSA-Natl Security Advisor
Subject: AMC Event-Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Bruce/Matt/Tom -

As you know, SRB is supposed to address the American Muslim Council this Friday -- 10 minute remarks + Q+A. Since SRB will be on the trip until late Thursday nite, we will need to get a package to him on the road. He'll need draft remarks in time for the return flight (10:00 a.m. Thursday)- as well as a good Q+A package on some of our favorite topics (al Shifa, Iraq, etc.). Let me know if this presents a problem.

Mona
Tom, Ted: please include a placeholder for Sandy to note that one of the three POTUS appointees to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom is an American Muslim, Dr. Laila Al-Marayati (assuming the WH press release announcing the three appointees goes out by then - as is likely. I'll advise.)

SN

-----Original Message-----
From: Malley, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:53 AM
To: Malinowski, Tomasz P.; Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Sorry. Hadn't seen your e-mail.

Our view is that remarks should focus on Kosovo and make the point this is not a clash of civilizations but a clash of values.

-----Original Message-----
From: Malinowski, Tomasz P.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:47 AM
To: Sutphen, Mona K.; @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: RE: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Ted will be riding back on AF1 and working the remarks with Sandy. Please get him any input and points by the time of our departure today.

-----Original Message-----
From: Sutphen, Mona K.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 1999 9:45 AM
To: @NESASIA - NE/South Asia; @PRESS - Public Affairs; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Subject: AMC Event - Items for SRB [UNCLASSIFIED]

Bruce/Matt/Tom -

As you know, SRB is supposed to address the American Muslim Council this Friday -- 10 minute remarks + Q+A. Since SRB will be on the trip until late Thursday nite, we will need to get a package to him on the road. He'll need draft remarks in time for the return flight (10:00 a.m. Thursday)- as well as a good Q+A package on some of our favorite topics (al Shifa, Iraq, etc.). Let me know if this presents a problem.

Mona