

October 20, 1983

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

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

1983 OCT 21 AM 10:57
OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I must say that I was surprised at your letter of September 20.

You state, "No one here ever heard of the news magazine you mentioned so, of course, there was no denial, etc. on our part." The fact is that a press officer at the Near Eastern desk in the State Department has advised a member of my staff that according to the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Al-Sapir is considered by some to be the second ranking newspaper, after Al-Nahar. Surely, the Pentagon has access to the same information that the State Department has on that matter.

You have indeed "unequivocally denied the nonsense in this false transcript," but you do not deny that a meeting took place, only that it was falsely reported. The matter is so serious that whatever comments you did make should be furnished to the Members of Congress on the appropriate committees. And since I have been in touch with them, a number of members have told me that they requested the information and so far as I know it has not yet been made available to them. I believe that it is essential that you publicly reject in Al-Sapir the transcript, denounce it as a forgery for the benefit of its readers in the Mideast and advise the Members of Congress publicly where appropriate -- what in fact you committed the United States to at that meeting.

Please understand that it is my intention to make public this letter as well as the remainder of the correspondence between us.

Sincerely,

Edward Koch
Mayor

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 22 AUG 2013 Authority: EO 13526
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Reason: _____
MDR: 13-M-3138

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13-M-3138

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

December 28, 1983

Hon. Charles R. Pendergast
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
JAW ED 13526, Section 3.5
Date:

Hon. Mr. Secretary:

I was very pleased at your letter of September 28.

Your letter, "We can hear over board of the man regarding you mentioned so, of course, there was no denial, etc. on our part." The fact is that a press officer at the New Leaders Club in the State Department has advised a number of my staff that according to the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Al-Sagoff is considered by some to be the second ranking member, after Al-Sharar. Surely, the Pentagon has access to the same information that the State Department has on that matter.

You have indeed "unintentionally denied the message in this false transcript," but you do not deny that a meeting took place, only that it was falsely reported. The matter is so serious that whatever contacts you did make should be furnished to the Members of Congress on the appropriate committees. Just since I have been in touch with them, a number of members have told me that they requested the information and so far as I know it has not yet been made available to them. I believe that it is essential that you publicly reject in Al-Sagoff the transcript, denounce it as a forgery for the benefit of his members in the House and advise the Members of Congress publicly where appropriate - that in fact you consulted the United States CP at that meeting.

Please understand that it is my intention to make public this letter as well as the remainder of the correspondence between us.

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SECRET
SJKR
1/1/84