



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 23, 1990

Ms. Virginia D. Birdsall
Executive Director
Embrace Foundation
20 West 22nd Street
New York, New York 10010

Dear Ms. Birdsall:

Secretary Baker has asked me to express his appreciation for the thoughtful letter you and Mr. Sharma sent him on August 11. At this time of crisis when the world's attention is focused upon the historic heartland and center of Islamic culture, please rest assured of Secretary's personal interest in strengthening our relations with the Islamic nations of the Middle East as well as other parts of the world.

We appreciate being apprised of Embrace Foundation's concerns for promoting deeper ties between the people's of the United States and those of the Islamic world. I have taken the liberty of providing your remarks to the Secretary's national security and regional advisors so that they too are aware of your recommendations and thinking on this matter.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allen L. Keiswetter".

Allen L. Keiswetter
Director of Regional
Near East and South Asia
Affairs Bureau