

Feb. 8 / Administration of George Bush, 1991

The President. Look, I'd prefer not to take any questions at essentially this photo opportunity.

You're talking a very great interest in Jordan, and Mr. Fitzwater gave our views on that. But there is quite some concern now about what appears to be a shift in the Jordanian position. And yet, we're concerned about it and don't understand some of the rhetoric coming out of there. On the other hand, we've always had a historically good relationship with Jordan. But this complicates things.

Jim Baker testified on that yesterday very well and pointed out that we're having to

review our aid picture with him, given the fact they've seemed to have moved over, way over into the Saddam Hussein camp totally.

Note: The exchange began at 1:34 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House, prior to a meeting with Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella of Argentina. In his remarks, President Bush referred to Marlin Fitzwater, Press Secretary to the President; Secretary of State James A. Baker III; King Hussein I of Jordan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Memorandum on the Presidential Design Awards Program *February 8, 1991*

Memorandum for the Heads of Departments and Agencies

Every year the Federal Government helps design products that become a part of daily American life. Professional designers working for Federal departments and agencies are instrumental in the production of everything from postage stamps to highways. Our Nation has good reason to take pride in the high standards of quality and innovation these designers have set.

For almost two decades the National Endowment for the Arts has helped to promote design excellence through the Federal Design Improvement Program, and I am delighted to further those efforts by announcing today Round Three of the Presidential Design Awards. These awards, first established in 1983, publicly recognize ex-

emplary achievements in Federal design work and honor those individuals in Federal service and private industry who have pursued excellence in design.

I have asked Chairman John Frohnmayer of the National Endowment for the Arts to implement the Presidential Design Awards Program. I know he will enjoy your full and enthusiastic support. Please designate an individual with an appropriate background and position to be your liaison with the Endowment to help ensure the success of this program.

GEORGE BUSH

Note: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Nomination of Ira H. Raphaelson To Be a Special Counsel at the Department of Justice *February 8, 1991*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Ira H. Raphaelson, of Illinois, to be Special Counsel for the Financial

Institutions Fraud Unit at the Department of Justice. This is a new position.

Currently Mr. Raphaelson serves as First