

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

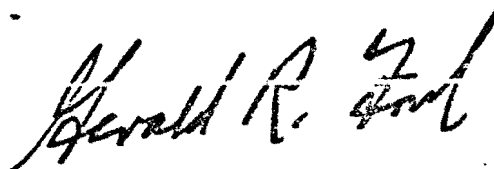
February 24, 1975

The Speaker of the
House of Representatives

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider various amendments to the request for foreign assistance and Department of State appropriations transmitted in the budget for the fiscal year 1975 amounting to \$388,500,000. The details of this proposal are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "G" and "F".

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

Estimate NO. 94th Congress, 1st Session

February 24, 1975

The President

The White House

Sir:-

I have the honor to submit for your consideration amendments to the request for appropriations transmitted in the budget for the fiscal year 1975, involving increases in the amount of \$388,500,000 for Foreign Assistance under Funds Appropriated to the President and for the Department of State, as follows:

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

Foreign Assistance

Budget Appendix Page	Heading	1975 Request Pending	1975 Proposed Amendment	1975 Revised Request
81	Security Supporting Assistance	\$385,500,000	\$274,500,000	\$660,000,000

This proposed amendment increasing the Supporting Assistance request from \$385.5 million to \$660 million would provide an additional \$274.5 million in economic assistance to Israel. Israel's economic situation has worsened since transmittal of the original budget request for this purpose. The Administration has indicated that it would transmit an additional request for Israel if it was found that the original request was insufficient. Subsequently, the Foreign Assistance Act of 1974 increased the authorization for Security Supporting Assistance above the request by \$274.5 million and specified that the additional amount be provided to Israel. The proposed amendment would bring the Administration's budget request into line with amounts authorized in that Act.

Budget Appendix page		1975 Request Pending	1975 Proposed Amendment	1975 Revised Request
89	Grants and Other Programs	\$103,400,000	\$74,000,000	\$177,400,000

(Delete the paragraph under the above heading and insert in lieu thereof the following:)

For necessary administrative and other expenses for grants and other programs, including grants to American schools and hospitals abroad, Portugal and Portugese colonies in Africa gaining independence, international narcotics control programs and programs for famine or disaster relief, \$177,400,000, to remain available until expended.

Three amendments, totaling \$74 million, are proposed to the request for Grants and Other Programs, a consolidated appropriations account. The \$25 million proposed amendment to provide economic assistance to Portugal and its present and former territories and the \$40 million proposed amendment for famine or disaster relief would bring the Administration's request, which did not include funds for these activities, in line with the authorizations provided in the 1974 Foreign Assistance Act for these purposes. The \$9 million proposed amendment for American Schools and Hospitals Abroad would raise the Administration's \$10 million request for this activity to the recently enacted \$19 million authorization level.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Other

Budget Appendix Page	Heading	1975 Request Pending	1975 Proposed Amendments	1975 Revised Request
661	Assistance to refugees from the Soviet Union	--	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000

(~~Insert~~ the above heading and the following paragraph thereunder immediately preceding the heading "International Center, Washington, D. C.");)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 2(c) of the "State Department/USIA Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1975."

This proposed amendment would provide assistance for the resettlement of Jewish or other refugees from the Soviet Union in Israel or suitable other countries.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals for appropriations contained in this document and am satisfied that this request is necessary at this time. I recommend, therefore, that these proposals be transmitted to the Congress.

Respectfully,

