FOIA MARKER

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Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)
Series: Subject File - General
Scanned/Unscanned: Scanned

WHORM Category Code: CO072
WHORM Category Name: Iraq, Republic of

Document Number: 042905 to 164275
Alpha File Name: Entire Category Processed
DATE RECEIVED: MAY 31, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI STUART WEINBLATT

SUBJECT: EXPRESS CONCERN REGARDING THE RECENT ATTEMPTS BY IRAQ TO SMUGGLE TRIGGERING DEVICES FOR NUCLEAR BOMBS

ROUTE TO:
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) ACTION DISPOSITION

DOUG WEAD REFERRAL NOTE: ORG 90/05/31 C 90/145S

REFERRAL NOTE: DOS 90/06/29 A

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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4400 4500

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *CORRESPONDENCE:
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *TYPE RESP=INITIALS
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED *OF SIGNER
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *CODE = A
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* *COMPLETED = DATE OF
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * *OUTGOING
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * *

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM
S/S 9014775
Date July 10, 1990

FOR: Mr. William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary
National Security Council Staff
The White House

REFERENCE:
To: President Bush
From: Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt
Date: May 28, 1990
Subject: Expresses concern regarding the recent attempts by Iraq to smuggle triggering devices for nuclear bombs

WH Referral Dated: June 29, 1990
NSCS ID# (if any): 145670

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

_____ A draft reply is attached.

_____ A draft reply will be forwarded.

_____ A translation is attached.

X An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.

_____ The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.

_____ Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

UNCLASSIFIED
Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt  
Executive Director  
The Zionist Organization of America  
11710 Hunters Lane  
Suite 9  
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2367

Dear Rabbi Weinblatt:

Thank you for your letter of June 29, 1990, expressing your concerns regarding U.S. policy towards Iraq.

The U.S. has serious concerns about Iraqi behavior in a number of areas -- proliferation, regional stability, and human rights. We believe the most effective way of promoting U.S. goals and interests in Iraq is to deal with each problem within the context of a broad relationship.

With regard to proliferation, we work with our allies to obstruct Iraq's efforts to develop nonconventional weapons and missile systems capable of delivering them. The United States Government does not license technology of significance for Iraq's nonconventional weapons and missile programs for export to Iraq. We are active in encouraging our allies to do likewise. License applications are carefully reviewed by the Department of Commerce and, if necessary, interagency groups for possible applicability to Iraq's attempts to develop nonconventional weapons.

With regard to regional stability, we have an active dialogue with Iraq as well as with countries friendly both to the U.S. and Iraq -- such as Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia -- to urge Iraq to play a responsible role. The United States' commitment to Israel's security is unshakeable. We believe that Israel has qualitative military superiority over any combination of potential adversaries, including Iraq. We are working to try to lower tensions in the region to reduce the chances of miscalculation.
We have raised our human rights concerns directly with the Iraqi government both here and in Baghdad. We speak out in our annual human rights reports and in international forums against Iraq's human rights abuses. We have taken an active role in promoting international investigation of Iraq's human rights record. I am attaching our most recent human rights report for Iraq.

The United States does not provide aid to Iraq. Regarding suggestions that sanctions are a proper response to our concerns, we believe that unilateral legislative sanctions would not have the effect of modifying Iraqi behavior or achieving U.S. goals.

I hope this information is useful.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence E. Pope
Director
Office of Northern Gulf Affairs

Enclosure:

Human Rights Report
TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 145670

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 28, 1990

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: RABBI STUART WEINBLATT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GREATER POTOMAC REGION
THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
11710 HUNTERS LANE
SUITE 9
ROCKVILLE MD 20852

SUBJECT: EXPRESS CONCERN REGARDING THE RECENT ATTEMPTS BY IRAQ TO SMUGGLE TRIGGERING DEVICES FOR NUCLEAR BOMBS

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL — IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE
May 28, 1990

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

I am deeply disturbed by the recent attempts by Iraq to smuggle triggering devices for nuclear bombs. The current Iraqi regime has already demonstrated its willingness to use chemical weapons upon civilian populations. We must do all in our power to see to it that we do not encourage or support the efforts of Iraq to obtain more sophisticated weapons.

In light of Iraq's record on human rights and the general threat it poses to the stability of the Middle East, I am concerned by our government's lack of response. Moreover, the allocation of foreign aid to Iraq in the form of agricultural development and other support is most unjustified at this time. I hope that you do all in your power to express our country's concern and to take whatever measures are appropriate to further the cause of peace and stability in the Middle East.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt
Executive Director

SGW: jsm