DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 03, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. RICHARD WILSON

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A COPY OF THE LETTER HE RECEIVED FROM DR. AL-MALLAH OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION REGARDING IRAQ'S FACILITIES; OFFERS TO AGAIN VISIT BAGDAD

ROUTE TO:
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)
JOHN SUNUNU

REFERRAL NOTE: BILL SITTMANN

REFERRAL NOTE: D 91/01/08

REFERRAL NOTE: R 91/01/11

REFERRAL NOTE: A 91/01/28

REFERRAL NOTE: 91/01/30

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: INDIVIDUAL CODES: ___ ___ ___

CS 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 * CODE = A *
* F-FURNISH FACT SHEET * S-SUSPENDED * COMPLETED = DATE OF *
* I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* * OUTGOING *
* R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * *
* 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.
TRANSMITTAL FORM

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

REFERENCE:
To: John Sununu

From: Dr. Richard Wilson

Date: January 2, 1991

Subject: Letter from Dr. Al-Mallah of the Atomic Energy Commission regarding Iraq's Facilities, to visit Bagdad

WH Referral Dated: January 18, 1991

NSCS ID# (if any):

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.

☒ 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:

[Signature]
Director
Secretariat Staff
Dear Dr. Wilson:

I would like to thank you on behalf of John Sununu for providing us a copy of Dr. Moyassah Al-Mallah's letter regarding the Iraqi nuclear program. We appreciate your offer, made in the interest of promoting peace, to inspect Iraq's nuclear facilities. Of course, subsequent events have made such an inspection infeasible. I'm sure that you, like this Administration, would have preferred a peaceful resolution of the Gulf crisis. I can assure you that we all hope for a quick end to the conflict.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Ward
Special Advisor for Nuclear Affairs

Dr. Richard Wilson
Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics,
Harvard University
Lyman Laboratory of Physics,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.
THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

JANUARY 18, 1991

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 201921

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JANUARY 2, 1991

TO: JOHN SUNUNU

FROM: DR. RICHARD WILSON
MALLINCKRODT PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
LYMAN LABORATORY OF PHYSICS
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A COPY OF THE LETTER HE RECEIVED FROM DR. AL-MALLAH OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION REGARDING IRAQ'S FACILITIES; OFFERS TO AGAIN VISIT BAGDAD

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
Dr. John Sununu  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Sununu,

Happy New Year for you and your family.

I enclose a copy of a letter I just received from Dr. Moyassah Al-Mallah, of the Atomic Energy Commission.

I note the invitation in the last paragraph. If it will be helpful to the U.S. or me to examine Iraq's facilities again, I will go. If, for example, Secretary Baker wants me to.

I would not want to go after January 15 and before peace is declared, but if for example, it would be helpful to be officially or unofficially going at the same time as Secretary Baker, I will go.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Wilson  
Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics

RW/jr
Hardcopy pages are in poor condition (too light or too dark).

Remainder of case not scanned.

Oversize attachment not scanned.

Report not scanned.

Enclosure(s) not scanned.

Proclamation not scanned.

Incoming letters(s) not scanned.

Proposal not scanned.

Statement not scanned.

Duplicate letters attached - not scanned.

Only table of contents scanned.

No incoming letter attached.

Only tracking sheet scanned.

Photo(s) not scanned.

Bill not scanned.

Comments:

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December 20, 1990

Professor Richard Wilson  
Department of Physics,  
Harvard University,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138,  
U.S.A.

Dear professor Wilson,

I received your letter dated November 27, 1990 addressed to the Iraqi Ambassador in New York. Pleased with your interest and concern, I feel encouraged this time to take the opportunity to express to you our worries and anxieties and what we have in our mind, aside from the fact that our previous letters were rather of formal characters.

Considering you a friend of the Arabs, I hope you can tolerate some heart-to-heart lines and perhaps some friendly and kind reproof.

We have not heard from you since the beginning of the Gulf crisis save your short article about (KISR) published in (Nature) recently. Frankly we do expect to hear or read a letter or an article by a friend about the condition of people of 18 million suffering from nasty inhuman economic blockade and deprived of food and medicine, contrary to the Geneva convention of 1949 and to its attached protocol of 1977, which prohibits starvation of civilians as a means of armed conflict.

So far (2042) children under five have died because of lack of food and medicine. The people here in Baghdad still have strong reminiscence of the day Hulagu, the Mongol and grand son of Ghenghis Khan, besieged Baghdad, the capital of civilization in the thirteenth century and then attacked and destroyed civilization—even burning all the
books. The Baghdadis are reminiscing this historical event and are wondering whether history will repeat itself. Is Baghdad going to be destroyed once again - Baghdad that is newly looking forward to participating in the establishment of nowadays world civilization?

The world has hated Stalin for his harshness and brutality, but it was he who said at the climax of the Nazi drive against Russia, what it meant, that Hitler would go but the German people would stay.

Rightly, as friends, we ask: isn't it fair to say that whoever wishes the annihilation of 18 million persons by starvation and deprivation of medicine, is more brutal and harsher than Stalin.

I am proud to have read the call you had it published in (Physics Today) last year concerning what the Palistinian physicists Tayseer Arrory has been exposed to by the Israeli authorities. Indeed it was a call from a friend of the Arabs - a call from a humanity lover, indeed!

In your letter you mentioned that the IAEA has properly inspected the highly enriched fuel and found that it was not manipulated. We have read much about this trifle amount of uranium! It is enough that wise newspapermen and scientists have written in the American press these days. The Iraqis are not foolish to the extent that they make one nuclear bomb while Israel possesses 200 bombs as witnessed by U.N. experts.
Dear friend, how much are we in need of logic and reason in this world today. Cheney, the defense minister of the United States, with huge nuclear arsenal, is frightened by an imaginary bomb which could, as some have claimed, be made of enriched uranium fully open to IAEA periodic inspection for the last ten years. Doesn't this sound ridiculous? I imagine that even in the day of resurrection we would hear some one proclaiming that Iraqis want to misuse enriched uranium.

I want to return to the two enrichment units affair. I wish to say: for the sake of argument if we suppose that Iraq does have two centrifugal units - a supposition originally wrong, as I will explain later - why all this most hated discrimination?

Since mid seventies Israel announced that it had the capability of enriching uranium using a laser technique. Also not long time ago, the president of Israel declared that Israel possessed a nuclear weapon. However, we find no one declares, at least any dissatisfaction with Pakistan. Is there anyone who does not know that Pakistan has mastered centrifugal technology for uranium enrichment and also has built factories for industrial production? Nevertheless the United States does not see in this any justification to declare war or even to cut off the assistant program to Pakistan. Why then Iraq? Why this threat just upon suspicion? The Holy Qur'an says: (O ye who believe! Avoid suspicion as much (as possible): For suspicion in some cases is a
Thank God! there are politicians in the USA like Schlisinger and Senator Nunn who were sufficient enough to answer the American Department of State as well as President Bush.

This is as far as political level. Returning to science, it does not sound reasonable that the production capability of only two units intimidates or infringes upon the NPT. Any ordinary physicist, by simple computation, is capable of obtaining the amount and the enrichment rate that these two supposed units can produce. You are aware that most of the nuclear laboratories in the world conduct research and experiments in isotope separation using various conventional as well as advanced techniques, most of which are not liable to IAEA inspection and safeguards, because these activities are mere experiments, some of which are not successful and others are still in different research stages of development. There is nothing causing more embarrassment to a researcher than announcing his experiments before reaching some results, even if they are humble.

We all acknowledge this fact, and we even disapprove those who are in haste such as Bonz and Fleischmann.

It is some what strange to see that when a case involves Iraq, some of us take exception and digress to the world of irrationality and misgiving. A policy assuring world destruction is built on suggestions and misgivings.
In your first visit to Baghdad, you advised us to let our scientific activities be open to the world, and we have found that your advice to be correct, in spite of our sensitivity as scientists towards what beats the propaganda drums and also in spite of the fact that in politics we are sensitive, too. This may stem from the fact that we were first whose research reactor was brutally bombed by a party possessing nuclear weapons.

I am convinced, and it is also the prevailing opinion of people here in Baghdad, that there is a lot of imagination and misjudgment concerning the two separation units.

Dear friend,

Recently I read a book entitled (The Nuclear Age) by the writer Willam Sweet. I stumbled on a graph, on page 168 which illustrates the time or period for possessing nuclear technology. It seems that some day in the near future all countries in the world will have nuclear technology, but is it the requirement that the Arabs should be remained forbidden from acquiring nuclear technology? Do you see with me the fact that we are facing intellectual and moral sort of schizophrenia? Why don't we work together openly without fear, without misgivings and without suspicions? As a human being on this Planet, isn't it one of my rights that same opportunity is provided to me as to my colleagues in the USA, not being less unlucky, as far as
scientific level and activity? Why do they have the right to participate in developing civilization in this world while I am not allowed to do so?

I have mentioned to you at the beginning of this letter that I liked to exploit the opportunity this time for writing to you my anxieties and agony, which I am sure that Iraqi researchers in different specialties share with me. In essence, it is that they are suspected and accused in the first place by the advanced industrial countries. Isn't it the very injustice and frustration? I wish you were close to me now so that we can chat a lot.

We have studied in the USA and learned that it is the land of liberty and democracy and that it defends its human values. Today I am living a state of a lot of confusion and disturbance. I just cannot comprehend how the USA today defends ruler like the Saudis? Most backward of all the Arabs and the worst enemies of democracy.

The USA defends those who still do not believe that the earth is spherical, who do not allow women even to drive cars, and who treat women as if they were cars bought and exchanged as models change. Few days ago, my eyes could not believe what I saw in the newspaper about a press interview, in Australia, of the state minister for foreign affairs in the former Kuwaiti Amir government in which he stated that he does not object to the use of nuclear bombs by the American forces for the sake of retrieving power by his family. Are you going to fight
for these? Is it for this stupid futility American youths fight and want to return it to us?

Babylon discovered the Pythagorean theorem in plane geometry, and the Great philosopher Pythagoras was really the son of Mesopotamia civilization, i.e. was a pupil of Babylon. Pythagoras was murdered just because he warned a Roman soldier not to step on the geometric circles he had drawn in the sand lest they are destroyed. Will a Mesopotamian Pythagoras die again? For whom does Bush want to burn Babylon anew?

Finally, I want to thank you for your letter and concern. I would like to renew our invitation to you to visit Baghdad after long time since you last saw it, so that we can have a dialogue and discuss your proposals. I am sure you will be most delighted if you could participate in the peace process now going on.

By the way Baghdad has another name: DAR AL-SALAM meaning "the house of peace".

Welcome to DAR AL-SALAM!

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Peace Be On Earth!

Yours sincerely,

M. Y. Almallah

(MIAEC)