

Original FOIA Number: 1998-0099-F

2nd FOIA Number:

3rd FOIA Number:

4th FOIA Number:

5th FOIA Number:

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:	ND018
WHORM Category Name:	Weapons - Ordinance - Munitions

Document Number:	264447
Alpha File Name:	

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Proposal	Case Number 264447 From Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc. to Naval Ordnance Station Re: Technical Proposal Chemical weapon & conventional weapon disposal on-site in Iraq and Kuwait (13 pp.)	n.d.	(b)(4)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)
Series: Subject File - General
Subseries: Scanned
WHORM Cat.: ND018
File Location: 264447

Pinksheet Number: DC1082
OA/ID Number: 00002-001
Date Closed: 1/14/2003
FOIA/Sys Case #: 1998-0099-F
Re-review Case #:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:

9

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 13, 1991

264447

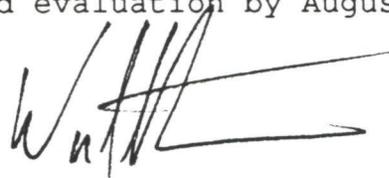
5918

ND018

MEMORANDUM FOR BG JOHN A. DUBIA
Executive Secretary
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: Chemical and Conventional Weapon Disposal
On-Site in Iraq and Kuwait

The letter at Tab A is being forwarded for your evaluation and preparation of a draft response. I would appreciate receiving the requested draft response and evaluation by August 23, 1991.



William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary

Attachment

Tab A Letter from J. Michael Rehwaldt

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

August 9, 1991

ACTION

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

THROUGH: ARNOLD KANTER *AK*

FROM: MIKE FRY *MF*

SUBJECT: Chemical and Conventional Weapon Disposal
On-Site in Iraq and Kuwait

The incoming letter at Tab A should be forwarded to OSD for staffing and preparation of a draft response.

Concurrences by: Richard Haass, Dan Poneman *PH*

RECOMMENDATION

That you ^{sign} forward the memo at Tab I to OSD.

Attachments

Tab I Memo to OSD

Tab A Incoming Letter from J. Michael Rehwaldt



August 6, 1991

Miss Deb Amend
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

2121
COLUMBIA
PIKE

SUITE 803

ARLINGTON
VIRGINIA
22204

703/739-2898

Re: Chemical weapon & conventional weapon
disposal on-site in Iraq and Kuwait.

Dear Deb,

Attached you will find the technical proposal I mentioned today on the phone which will, I believe, solve a huge and pressing problem for the administration and our Gulf allies.

Although Saddam has agreed to surrender his chemical and biological stockpile, there is at present no portable means to safely destroy chemical agents in the field. Currently the only system in operation is on Johnston Island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. I doubt our Armed Forces would want to handle and transport Iraqi weapons any more than necessary. The huge amount of conventional munitions left on the battlefield across all of Kuwait is a terrible hazard until disposed of properly also.

Los Alamos Technical Associates (LATA) and their team hold the solution to the most vexing technical problem the administration has left in the Gulf. They can solve your problem, fast.

91 AUG 7 A 9: 53

RECEIVED

page 2

I personally vouch for the engineering companies which have prepared this brief proposal to solve the problem. I have the highest regard for the leaders of these companies, who are known to me, especially Mr. Gary Dunbar, COO of LATA, the leader of the team. These companies have worked for years in the defense and nuclear weapons complex and hold special security clearances. To these people, finding solutions to exotic problems is commonplace.

Again, let me stress that these people are known to me and also Andy Card and are held in the highest regard in the scientific and engineering community.

Thank you so very much for forwarding this to Mr. Sittman. I have enclosed two copies for his use.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Michael Rehwaldt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. Michael Rehwaldt

NOTE: The attached proposals are proprietary information, property of LATA.

Addendum to Los Alamos Technical Associates'
Proposal to the U.S. Navy, Naval Ordnance Station,
Indian Head, MD for an Environmentally - Safe Explosive Ordnance Disposal System

CHEMICAL WEAPONS DISPOSAL IN IRAQ

In LATA's proposal to the U.S. Navy for an environmentally safe method of disposing explosive ordnance, the emphasis was placed on disposing conventional explosive ordnance. LATA had earlier investigated the possibility of using this mobile system for the safe destruction of chemical weapons in a field environment. Our chemical defense experts felt that the system could be used for this purpose with some minor modifications.

The minor difference between burning (destruction) of conventional munitions such as high explosives and chemical agents such as mustard or nerve gas is the temperature and length of burn. Conventional munitions are more effectively destroyed using lower temperatures and longer burns whereas chemical munitions require a higher temperature for the decomposition and burn over a shorter period of time. The method we propose for field disposal of chemical weapons is to use a turbine to achieve the higher temperatures needed for chemical agent decomposition. Each type of chemical agent has a specific temperature which must be achieved to be assured of complete decomposition and thus the system will have to be modified to accommodate the volume of gases generated from various agent burns. LATA understands that the major chemical agents in the Iraqi stockpile are mustard and nerve gas. We believe these agents can be safely destroyed in place using our system.

In our basic proposal we addressed the problem of possible propellant explosions by burning underwater. This is not believed to be a problem with chemical agent disposal and the tank will not be required.

In order to decrease the exhaust gas volume and temperature prior to entry into our scrubber we envision a water spray system. The excess water would be collected, reused, and decontaminated by use of a mixed oxidant. LATA has the patent on a cell for generating the mixed oxidant.

If agents have been added to burster shells the agent will have to be removed for disposal by burning. Decontamination of the shells and other containers may require a different type of furnace but our system can be used for decontamination of the exhaust gases.

The advantages this system offers are:

1. Chemical munitions can be destroyed in place with a minimum of handling.
2. The emissions of the off-gas scrubber are environmentally safe
3. The off-gas scrubber system exists today and could be made quickly available for the use in Iraq.
4. The logistics support for the off-gas scrubber are fairly minimal - prime power or a 10 KW generator will power the system and a water source (non-potable) must be available.
5. Residual toxic ash and other residue in the burn pit could be held in place using common barrier technology until treated by conventional disposal techniques or in-situ vitrification.

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P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9105918
RECEIVED: 07 AUG 91 15

TO: DUBIA, J

FROM: SITTMANN

DOC DATE: 13 AUG 91
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: CBW
KUWAIT

IRAQ
MP

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL & CONVENTIONAL WEAPON DISPOSAL ON-SITE IN IRAQ & KUWAIT

ACTION: SITTMANN SGD MEMO

DUE DATE: 10 AUG 91

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: FRY

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

EXECSEC

FRY

KANTER

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY HeM DATE 8/13 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSWEA

CLOSED BY: NSMEM

DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9105918

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 FRY

Z 91080715 PREPARE MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT

002 SITTMANN

Z 91081308 FOR SIGNATURE

003

X 91081311 SITTMANN SGD MEMO

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