



October 06, 1990
**Correspondence between the MIC and the Petro Chemical
Group Regarding a Letter from A.Q. Khan Offering
Assistance in Developing Iraq's Nuclear Weapons
Program**

Citation:

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<http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116989>

Summary:

Pakistani scientist 'Abd-el-Qadeer Khan offers to help Iraq establish a project to enrich Uranium and manufacture a nuclear weapon.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from the Leon Levy Foundation and Carnegie Corporation.

Original Language:

Arabic

Contents:

- English Translation

**“Correspondence between the MIC and the Petro
Chemical Group Regarding a Letter from A.Q. Khan
Offering Assistance in Developing Iraq’s Nuclear
Weapons Program”**



Document Date: 06 Oct 1990

CRRC Record Number: SH-MICN-D-000-741

Top Secret and Confidential

1/165
6 October 1990

Form: B15

Attachment 1

Memorandum Number: M78

To: S15

Date: 6 October 1990 AD

17/Rabi' I/1411 Hijri

Subject/ Proposal

We forward to you an enclosed proposal presented by the Pakistani scientist, Dr. 'Abd-el-Qadeer Khan, regarding the possibility of helping Iraq to establish a project to enrich Uranium and manufacture a nuclear weapon. The above-mentioned individual expressed the following:

[Handwritten in margin] Delivered by ██████████ to Dr. Hammam in Vienna on September 30 1997

- 1- He is willing to give us project designs for a nuclear bomb.
- 2- Provide us with any equipment or materials from Western European countries through a company he owns in Dubai.
- 3- He requested a preliminary technical meeting to discuss the documents which he is going to present to us. However, the current circumstances do not allow for a direct meeting with the above-mentioned individual. There is a possibility to hold a meeting with the intermediary with whom we have good relations in Greece.
- 4- The motive for this proposal is gaining monetary profits for him and the intermediary.
- 5- The operation was given code name "A B" [in English] to use in correspondence or discussions.

Kindly be advised and give us your opinion about the subject... so that we can take the initial procedures for discussions with him according to the notes and remarks to be received from you.

With Regards

[Handwritten at the bottom of the page] Mr. Deputy.

Attachments:

Text of the proposal in English

Signature

[Signed]

4 October 1990

Kindly be advised. I suggest we get a confirmation from the Intelligence Agency that he will not leak the information and that the subject matter is not just for "testing the waters." We can ask for a specimen from Article 1, as if the Intelligence Agency were requesting it to verify their [the scientists] capabilities. However, it (the Intelligence Agency) did not investigate the subject.
With Regards

(1-1)

Top Secret and Confidential

Top Secret and Confidential

1/165
6 October 1990

Form: B15

Attachment 2

Memo Number: M78

To: S15

Date: 6 October 1990

17/Rabi' I/1411 Hijri

Subject/ Proposal

We forward to you an enclosed proposal presented by the Pakistani scientist, Dr. 'Abd-el-Qadeer Khan, regarding the possibility of helping Iraq to establish a project to enrich Uranium and manufacture a nuclear weapon. The above-mentioned individual expressed the following:

- 1- He is willing to give us project designs for a nuclear bomb.
- 2- Provide us with any equipment or materials from Western European countries through a company he owns in Dubai.
- 3- He requested a preliminary technical meeting to discuss the documents which he is going to present to us. However, the current circumstances do not allow for a direct meeting with the above-mentioned individual. There is a possibility to hold a meeting with the intermediary with whom we have good relations in Greece.
- 4- The motive for this proposal is gaining monetary profits for him and the intermediary.
- 5- The operation was given code name "A B" [*originally written in English*] to use in correspondence or discussions.

Kindly be advised and give us your opinion about the subject... so that we can take the initial procedures for discussions with him according to the notes and remarks to be received from you.

With Regards

[*Handwritten at the bottom of the page*] Mr. Deputy.

Attachments:

Text of the proposal in English

Signature

[*Signed*]

4 October 1990

Kindly be advised. I suggest we get a confirmation from the Intelligence Agency that he will not leak the information and that the subject matter is not just for "testing the waters." We can ask for a specimen from Article 1, as if the Intelligence Agency were requesting it to verify their [*the scientists*] capabilities. However, it (the Intelligence Agency) did not investigate the subject.
With Regards

(1-1)

Top Secret and Confidential

Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization

The Petrochemicals Project/ 3

The Deputy Office

Top Secret and Confidential

Date: 6 October 1990

Mr. Director of Third Group

Subject/ Proposal

This issue should be submitted to the respectable Mr. Minister. It would be preferable if the Intelligence Agency officially writes to the Minister's office, in order for the issue to be forwarded to us for an appropriate recommendation to the respectable Mr. Minister.

In the past, as you know, we used to neglect such proposals because of the technique of entrapment which is still used by hostile parties. One of the aspects that will help us in evaluating this issue is some details about obtaining this proposal, and this is something that the [*Intelligence*] Agency can evaluate better than anyone else. Anyhow, the mediator can obtain what you suggested in order to know their real capability. This should be something normally required for such proposals in order to identify people committing fraud and see results before escalating the proposal to higher officials.

Mr. Adil [<i>Illegible</i>] [<i>Signature</i>] 8 October

With Regards

Attachments: Original copy of the proposal

[*Signature*]

Jafar Dhia Jafar

Mr. Director of Third Group:

Please be advised and sign

With Regards

[*Signature*]

9 October

Secret and Confidential

Mr. `Adil

As suggested

[*Signature*]

13 October

Top Secret, Confidential and Personal

From: S/ 15

Memorandum Number:

To: B/ 15

Date: Hijri: / /1411

A.D: / /1990

Subject: Reply Regarding Proposal

In reference to your memorandum number M78 dated 6 October 1990. As you know, the technique of entrapment is still used by hostile parties. One of the aspects that will help us in evaluating the subject matter is some details about obtaining this proposal and we think that you are better than any others in evaluating this aspect. Thus, please obtain some of the details in order to know their real capability and consequently we can identify people committing fraud.

We suggest submitting this issue from you directly to Mr. Minister of Industry and Military Industrialization.

With Regards

As you know, the thing that causes a lot of concerns for us in such cases is that it may be an intentional case for “testing the waters.” If your agents can:

- (1) Mislead the proposing party.
- (2) Guarantee that this is not just a case for “testing the waters.”

Then, we would like to implement Article (1) of your above-mentioned memorandum by the following:

Signature

The involved parties should send us a detailed specimen of the detailed diagrams and its calculations, in order to verify what they have.

Turn the Page

Top Secret, Confidential, and To Be Opened Personally

From: S/ 15

Memorandum Number: 106

To: B/ 15

Date: 26/ Rabi' I/ 1411 Hijri

15/ October/ 1990 AD

Subject: Reply Regarding Proposal

In reference to your memorandum number M78 dated 6 October 1990.

As you know, the technique of entrapment is still used by hostile parties. What causes a lot of concerns for us in such cases is that it may be an intentional case for "testing the waters." If your agents can:

- (1) Mislead the proposing party.
- (2) Guarantee that this is not just a case for "testing the waters."

Then, we would like to implement Article (1) of your above-mentioned memorandum by [*doing*] the following:

The involved parties should send us a detailed specimen of the detailed diagrams and its calculations, in order to verify what they have. We suggest the following approach in English:

[*Originally written in English*] A specimen of the detail design and its accompanying calculations procedure to produce the detail design.

With Regards

[*Signed*]

Signature

October 13, 1990

[Pages 8-12 are the same as Pages 3-7]