

1969

Undated, unsigned handwritten note, presumably from Minister Yigal Allon to Minister without Portfolio Israel Galili

Citation:

"Undated, unsigned handwritten note, presumably from Minister Yigal Allon to Minister without Portfolio Israel Galili", 1969, Wilson Center Digital Archive, File 13, Adam Raz collection. Contributed and translated by Or Rabinowitz.

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Summary:

This handwritten note, presumably from Minister Yigal Allon, most likely circa 1969-1970, demonstrates how Israel adopted the NPT's nuclear test criteria for its own purposes, allowing the Israeli leadership to maintain that Israel was not a nuclear state. Allon's adoption of the NPT's nuclear test criteria mirrored Israel's official language at the time when discussing the issue with state department officials.

Editor's note: Because of the unique provenance of this document, it should be treated as unauthenticated and interpreted skeptically. Readers are strongly encouraged to read the associated essay by Ori Rabinowitz.

Credits:

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Original Language:

Hebrew

Contents:

Translation - English

Yisrael, I keep using the agreed term with Kissinger, that Israel is not a nuclear state. This definition stems from the agreement against proliferation of nuclear weapons. According to this agreement, a nuclear state is a state which has exploded a bomb or a device.