

July 7, 1993

Letter, T. J. de Waal, Executive General Manager of Armscor, Regarding Relations with Israel

Citation:

"Letter, T. J. de Waal, Executive General Manager of Armscor, Regarding Relations with Israel", July 7, 1993, Wilson Center Digital Archive, South African Foreign Affairs Archives, BTS, 32.2, Vol 1, Vol 2, Al 1994, Vol 3, Armscor, Krygkor Vol. 1, 1 April 93 - 30 Jul 1994. Obtained and contributed by Anna-Mart van Wyk, Monash South Africa. https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/116084

Summary:

Armscor letter discussing Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

Original Language:

Afrikaans

Contents:

Original Scan
Translation - English

Mnr L H Evans

PRETORIA

Beste Rusty

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Direkteur-Generaal

Buitelandse Sake Privaatsak X152



Privaatsak X337 0001 Pretoria Republiek van Suid-Afrika Telegramme ARMSCOR

Private Bag X 337 0001 Pretoria Republic of South Africa Telegrams ARMSCOR

(012) 428-1911

FAX (012) 428-5635

Datum/Date

7 Julie 1993

Navrae/Enquiries

T J de Waal

T (012) 428-

2570

FAX (012) 428-

455743

Ons verw/Our ref

The Volschenk In U verw/Your ref

Hierby aangeheg 'n opsomming van die gereelde jaarlikse vergadering tussen die Voorsitter van Krygkor en die Minister van Verdediging van Israel tydens ons onlangse besoek aan Israel.

Ons vertrou dat dit insiggewend sal wees.

Vriendelike groete

Die uwe

TJ DE WAAL

UITVOERENDE HOOFBESTUURDER



EERSTE MINISTER EN MINISTER VAN VERDEDIGING RABIN - 24/6/1993

Die afspraak is deur die MOD gemaak vir die Voorsitter van Krygkor en was gereêl op die dag waarvoor ons dit aangevra het.

Mnr Rabin het begin deur te sê daar is groot vertroue en 'n uitstekende verstandhouding tussen ons en hulle op militêre gebied en hy is baie bly daaroor maar dat hy 'n verandering in die toekoms voorsien.

Ons spreek ons tevredenheid met die huidige projekte uit en sê dat ons dit reeds met die ANC bespreek het en dit lyk of daar aanvaarding sal wees. Die belangrikeid om die oorgang te bestuur terwyl nuwe verhoudings ontwikkel word beklemtoon.

Mnr Moolman onderstreep die belangrikheid van die bilaterale verhoudings, maar meen ook dat Krygkor se verhouding op wapenverskaffing met die Verenigde State van Amerika tans uiters problematies is en dit affekteer ook Israel.

Mnr Rabin sê dat hulle graag die nuwe verhouding met die ANC wou bou, maar dat ons Buitelandse Sake vir terughoudenheid gevra het. Ons noem dat die feit dat nuwe verhoudings aangeknoop moet word nie verkeerd is nie, maar dat die styl waarmee dit gedoen word baie versigtig moet wees. Hy sê verder dat sy afleiding is dat indien die ANC weer deel van die RSA regering vorm die swart steun in die VSA weer baie goeie verhouding met die RSA tot gevolg sal hê.

Die gesprek raak ook aan die toetrede van Genl Viljoen (wat Rabin persoonlik ken) tot die RSA politiek. Die belangrikheid van die onderhandelinge in die volgende weke word beklemtoon.

Ons bedank hom vir die gesprek en verseker hom ons sal werk aan die verhoudings tydens die veranderings.

KRYGKOR ARMSCOR Private Bag X 337 Republic of South Africa Telegrams ARMSCOR Mr L H Evans **Director General** Foreign Relations Private Bag X 152 **PRETORIA** 0001 320217 Tel (012) 428 1911 Fax (012) 428 5635 Date 7 July 1993 Enquiries TJ de Waal Tel (012) 428 2570 Fax (012) 428 455743 Dear Rusty Hereto the summary of the yearly meeting between the chairperson of Armscor and the Israeli Minister of Defence during our recent visit to Israel. We trust it will be informative. Kind regards

Sincerely

TJ DE WAAL

EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER

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ISRAEL

PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE RABIN - 24/6/1993

The appointment was made for the chairperson of Armscor by the MOD and was arranged on the day we requested it to be.

Mr Rabin started by saying that there is great confidence and an excellent

understanding between us and them on a military level and that he is very glad about it but he foresees a change in the future.

We expressed our satisfaction with the current projects and said that we have discussed it with the ANC and it seems as if there will be acceptance thereof. The importance to manage the transition while new relationships develop has been stressed.

Mr Moolman stressed the importance of the bilateral relationships but is also of the opinion that Armscor's relationship wrt the supplying of weapons to the United States of America is currently extremely problematic and that it is affecting Israel as well.

Mr Rabin stated that they would gladly build a new relationship with the ANC but our Department of Foreign Affairs asked for restraint. We mentioned that it is not wrong to start new relationships but it must be done in a cautious manner. He further concluded that once the ANC is part of the RSA government the black support in the USA will lead to a much better relationship between the USA and RSA.

The conversation also touched on Gen Viljoen's (whom Rabin knows personally) joining the RSA politics. The importance of the negotiations in the next couple of weeks is also stressed.

We thanked him for the conversation and assured him we will work on the relationships during the changes.