

January 28, 1970
**Memorandum from South African Department of
Foreign Affairs Regarding Mirage Aircraft**

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Summary:

The South African Ambassador in Cologne sends information on a meeting with a representative of the Dornier Aircraft Company regarding the possible purchase by South Africa of Mirage aircraft and their re-export to Israel.

Credits:

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PRIVATE BAG 141,
PRETORIA.

28 -1- 1970

CONFIDENTIAL.

THE COMMANDANT-GENERAL, S.A.D.P.
THE GENERAL MANAGER, ARMAMENTS BOARD.

SUPPLY OF MIRAGES TO ISRAEL.

I attach for your information and any comment you may wish to make a copy of minute 8/24 of 16th January, 1970, from our Ambassador in Cologne, regarding an enquiry, purportedly emanating from Dassault, as to the possible interest of South Africa in purchasing further Mirages, falling which, whether South Africa would be prepared to acquire Mirages for re-exportation to Israel.

Handwritten notes:
No - 9/14/71
to be discussed
with
A. S. M
problem?
for 1st

A. S. M

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

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File
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REF. 8/24

D. SALEG KOBL
ONE • 23 6871

AIRMAIL

1/8/S vol 2
Israel
Defens
CONFIDENTIAL
THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
P R E T O R I A

SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY

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MINISTRIE VAN OORLOG
EN MARITIEM WZ
D. SALEG KOBL
ONE • 23 6871

16th January, 1970

(In duplicate)

SUPPLY OF MIRAGES TO ISRAEL.

This is just to let you know that a certain Mr. Jackel called to see me (after seeing the Assistant Military Attaché) with the following story.

He claimed that he was a representative of the Dornier Aircraft Company in Friedrichshafen and that his firm had been asked by Dassault to enquire

- (i) whether South Africa would have any interest in purchasing further Mirages for the use of the S.A.A.F.
- (ii) if not whether South Africa would be prepared to acquire Mirages for re-export to Israel.

According to Mr. Jackel, Dassault is pro Israeli in sympathy and is much concerned at the projected sale of 50 Mirages to Libya. If South Africa were prepared to place an additional order for Mirages, again according to Mr. Jackel, Dassault would be able to plead difficulty in supplying Mirages to Libya.

I asked Mr. Jackel why Dassault should approach South Africa in such a matter through Dornier - why not direct. Mr. Jackel claimed that there were difficulties of communication and referred to the situation created by the Israeli success in abducting the five gunboats from Sherbong.

I said that I could not believe that there would be any difficulties in communication in South Africa, whatever might be the situation in France and in any event this was not a matter in which this Embassy could act, even if I was satisfied about the bona fides of his assertions regarding Dassault.

My impression was that Mr. Jackel is no more than a free-

155 FC SA

Mr. Nelson
Mr. Mervin
Mr. van N
7/12/70
100 + 1000/1000
23/1
Glendon
27/1
B. Bie
24/1

