

November 30, 1964

**Cable 749 from the US Embassy in Argentina to the
Department of State, 'Sale of Uranium to Israel'**

Citation:

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<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/117163>

Summary:

Although the Embassy noted that the Foreign Office's apparent support of safeguards did not necessarily represent the Argentine government's thinking, it concluded that more Argentine dialogue should be allowed before Washington took further representation.

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

Inco-Uranium 17 ISR-ARG

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

5

SECRET

Action

SCI FSA981EXX794VV BAA512

0-24343

Info

RR RUEHCR
DE RUESBA 317 30/2108Z
R 302043Z ZEA

1964 NOV 30 PM 4 51

SS

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

G

TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC

SP

INFO RUOMVL/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

L

STATE GRNC

ARA

BT

EUR

S E C R E T

NEA

ACTION DEPT 749 INFO TELAVIV FIVE VIENNA NINE FROM BAIRE

IO

NOV 30, 6 PM

NSC

VIENNA FOR IAEA.

INR

*Inco-Uranium 17
ISR-Arg*

CIA

SUBJECT: SALE OF URANIUM TO ISRAEL.

NSA

REF: DEPTTEL 549, INFO TEL AVIV 436, VIENNA UNN.

DAC

AEC

EMBASSY DELIVERED FOLLOW-UP NOTE TO FONOFF NOVEMBER 27 URGING EARLY RESP HSE TO PREVIOUS INQUIRY WHETHER GOA PREPARED APPLY SAFEGUARDS CONNECTION URANIUM SALE TO ISRAEL. IN DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF OFFICIALS, EMBOFF WAS TOLD FONOFF HAD, AS RESULT OUR INQUIRY, MADE FORMAL REQUEST OF GOA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT BUT THAT TO DATE NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED. OFFICIALS ASSURED US FONOFF WOULD PRESS FOR REPLY SOONEST.

CFN 749 30 6 549 436 27

RMR

PAGE 2 RUESBA 317 **S E C R E T**
ACCORDING TO REMARKS BY OFFICIALS, SENTIMENT IN FONOFF APPEARS FAVOR APPLICATION SAFEGUARDS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF A DISPOSITION TO BELIEVE THAT COMMON APPLICATION THEREOF MAY BE EFFECTIVE IN MINIMIZING PROLIFERATION NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUT, AND PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, BECAUSE GOA SENSITIVE TO PROBABLY ATTACKS FROM SOME DOMESTIC QUARTERS AS RESULT SALE. IN THIS VIEW APPLICATION SAFEGUARDS, AT LEAST NOMINALLY CONSISTENT WITH THOSE OF IAEA, WOULD ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING THAT ARGENTINA ENGAGING IN TRANSFER NUCLEAR MATERIALS ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH PEACEFUL USES THEREOF AND THUS PLACE BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON TRANSACTION. PROPOSED SALE NOT YET PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE IN ARGENTINA.

Buenos Aires 749

SECRET

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SECRET

-2- 749, NOVEMBER 30, 6 PM, FROM BUENOS AIRES

EMBASSY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONCLUDE THAT FOREGOING, AND PERHAPS TENTATIVE, FONOFF VIEW NECESSARILY PORTRAYS ULTIMATE GOA POSITION, BUT BELIEVES IT CONSTITUTES REASON TO PROVIDE GOA FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO WORK OUT RESPONSE OUR INQUIRY WITHOUT OUR TAKING, FOR THE MOMENT, FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS AT HIGHEST LEVELS HERE OR AT TEL AVIV. IN VIEW QUIHILLALT'S SENSITIVITY TO OUR APPROACHING ISRAELIS BEFORE MATTER

PAGE 3 RUESBA 317 S E C R E T
THOROUGHLY EXAMINED BY GOA, WE BELIEVE APPROACH AT TEL AVIV UNLIKELY TO AFFECT GOA DECISION FAVORABLY.

QUIHILLALT HAS DEPARTED BAIREES FOR VIENNA. EMBASSY UNDERTAKING DETERMINE FROM CNEA IF ITS POSITION THIS MATTER FIRMED UP BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

GP-1. MARTIN

SECRET