

May 11, 1966

Cable 1250 from the Department of State to the US Embassies in Argentina and Israel, 'Israeli Purchase of Argentine Uranium'

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Summary:

The Department of State was unable to locate the Argentine uranium sold to Israel and was disturbed by the fact that the amount exceeded Israel's needs for peaceful use.

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INCO URANIUM 17 ISR-ARG

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Amembassy TEL AVIV

Info:

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REF: Buenos Aires' A-763

ISRAELI PURCHASE ARGENTINE URANIUM

Inco Uranium 17 isr-arg

Buenos Aires 1250

1. FOR BUENOS AIRES: Despite inquiries at technical levels, we have been unable determine whereabouts in Israel of the 80-100 tons of Argentine concentrate. We are disturbed because this amount is far in excess of present Israeli requirements in peaceful uses program and because GOI failure disclose intended use can be source of apprehension and misunderstanding which can have injurious effect on delicately balanced Near Eastern political situation. We intend inquire at high level GOI re disposition uranium obtained from Argentina. In view fact knowledge in Argentina of the sale to Israel is fairly widespread (Buenos Aires A-160 of August 21, 1965) we do not think it necessary to request GOA concurrence in our action. Embassy may wish inform GOA of our intention, if it considers this advisable.

2. FOR TEL AVIV: Embassy should await follow on instructions before making above approach.

GP-1.

END

Drafted by: SCI:JPTrevithick/
NEA:NE:ANNvenges:wdh:apr:5/9/66
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: NEA - Rodger P. Davies

PRO RUSK

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WB

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