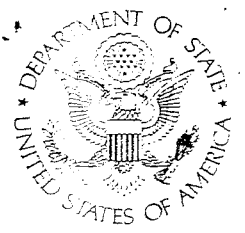


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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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PAGE 03

TEL AV 17685 291255Z

EFFORTS TO BLOCK IRAQ'S OBTAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AND IT IS OF COURSE A FACT THAT THE ISRAELIS AND THE IRANIANS BOTH USE F-4'S AS THE BACKBONE OF THEIR AIR FORCES. THE IDF COULD BELIEVE IT COULD CARRY OUT AN F-4 STRIKE

[REDACTED]

FOIA(b) (/)

LEWIS

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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EXDIS

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 12/15/95 (LEWIS, SAMUEL W.) CR-M

TAGS: IS, FR, IZ, MNUC, MILI

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR'S DISCUSSIONS WITH  
FRENCH LEADERS CONCERNING IRAQI NUCLEAR  
DEVELOPMENTS

(8 - ENTIRE TEXT)

DURING A DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS SUBJECTS WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL DAVID KIMCHE AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
GENERAL HANAN BAR-ON ON DECEMBER 10, I INQUIRED HOW FOREIGN  
MINISTER SHAMIR REGARDED HIS DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS CONCERN-  
ING THE IRAQI NUCLEAR PROBLEM; SPECIFICALLY, HOW WELL  
SATISFIED HE HAD BEEN WITH THOSE TALKS.

REDACTED

REDACTED

FOIA(b) (1)

CTED

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IN A SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR GAVE

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DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLS F96-1271 # 19

Rv enl NARA Date 2/3/05

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Ø ISRAEL RADIO ON DECEMBER 11, HE MADE THE FOLLOWING  
STATEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT:

EGIN TEXT: QUESTION: WHAT IS THE FRENCH POSITION ON THE  
RAQI NUCLEAR REACTOR?

ANSWER: WE HAVE OBVIOUS MISGIVINGS REGARDING THE PRESENCE  
OF A FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTOR IN THE HANDS OF A COUNTRY LIKE  
IRAQ. WE KNOW ABOUT THE IRAQI RULERS' ASPIRATIONS AS THEY  
HAVE DECLARED MORE THAN ONCE THAT THEY WISH TO GO AS FAR AS  
PRODUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND FOR THIS REASON THEY ESTAB-  
LISH TIES ON NUCLEAR PROJECTS WITH FRANCE, ITALY, BRAZIL  
AND OTHER COUNTRIES. I RAISED THIS ISSUE IN THE MEETING  
WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING AND HE ATTEMPTED  
TO CONVINC ME THAT THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR ISRAEL'S  
FEARS AND THAT IRAQ IS UNABLE TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRODUCTION. HE EXPLAINED THAT FRENCH

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AGE Ø3 TEL AV 2234Ø 1515ØØZ

POLICY IS TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS.

QUESTION: DID THE FRENCH PRESIDENT SOUND HOSTILE IN HIS  
APPROACH TO ISRAEL?

ANSWER: I WOULD NOT SAY IT IN THESE WORDS. THE MEETING  
WITH HIM WAS FRIENDLY AND INTERESTING AND HE HOPED THAT  
ISRAEL WOULD REGARD HIM IN A MORE POSITIVE LIGHT. HE  
LOOKS TO APPEAR AS A MAN WHO SEEKS PEACE AND WHO HOPES  
FOR ISRAEL'S WELLBEING. OBVIOUSLY, HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT  
FRENCH INTERESTS HAVE A PRIORITY AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED.  
END TEXT.

COMMENT: OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT FRENCH EFFORTS TO  
REASSURE SHAMIR ON THIS SUBJECT WERE NOT OVERLY SUCCESSFUL,  
ALTHOUGH THEY SEEMED TO HAVE MADE AT LEAST SOME IMPRESSION  
ON HIM. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT THE GOI WILL CONTINUE TO  
PRESS THE FRENCH AT ANY AND ALL OCCASIONS. LEWIS

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