

**October 23, 1964**

**Cable 578 from the US Embassy in Argentina to the  
Department of State**

**Citation:**

"Cable 578 from the US Embassy in Argentina to the Department of State", October 23, 1964, Wilson Center Digital Archive, National Archives Record Group 59, Department of State Records Subject-Numeric File, 1964-1966 Inco-Uranium. Originally published in Avner Cohen and William Burr, eds., National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book #432 (June 25, 2013). <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/117157>

**Summary:**

In a meeting with Foreign Office officials, a US embassy officer stated that the US did not object to the sale of uranium to Israel, but sought cooperation in order to assure that appropriate safeguards were put into place.

**Credits:**

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

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

Authority UND 959000

INCO-URANIUM 17

ISR-ARG

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

2 RR RUEHCR RUQMVL  
DE RUESBA 279 73/2210Z SECRET

020416

Action R 232134Z ZEA  
SCI FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

Info STATE GRNC  
L BT  
ARA S E C R E T

OCT 23 PM 6 59

EUR ACTION DEPT 578 INFO VIENNA FIVE TELAVIV THREE FROM BAIRE  
NEA OCT 23, 6 PM

IO VIENNA FOR IAEA. INCO URANIUM 17 ISR-ARG

NSC REF: CA-3932 AND EMBTEL TO DEPT 555; INFO VIENNA 4,  
INR TEL AVIV 2.

CIA ON OCTOBER 22 AND 23 EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED PROPOSED  
NSA GOA SALE URANIUM OXIDE TO ISRAEL WITH FONOFF DIVISION  
DOD RESPONSIBLE RELATIONS WITH IAEA AND WITH DIRECTOR,  
DAC DEPARTMENT NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. APPROACH BY EMBASSY  
AEC OFFICER FOLLOWED LINE SET FORTH IN REFERENCED AIRGRAM.  
BOTH AIDE-MEMOIRE AND TECHNICAL NOTE LEFT WITH FONOFF  
FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS.

RMR CFN 578 3932 555 4 2 22 23

PAGE 2 RUESBA 279 S E C R E T  
EMBASSY OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT MINISTRY SHOULD UNDERSTAND  
THAT U.S. NEITHER OBJECTS TO SALE, PER SE, OF URANIUM  
TO ISRAEL NOR SUGGESTS THAT LATTER INTENDS USE MATERIALS  
FOR OTHER THAN PEACEFUL PURPOSES. MOTIVATION UNDERLYING  
U.S. INITIATIVE, HE POINTED OUT, IS RATHER THAT OF SEEKING  
GOA COOPERATION IN MAINTENANCE OF CRITICAL PRINCIPLE THAT  
SIGNIFICANT ATOMIC ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED ONLY IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS.

FONOFF OFFICIALS, ONE OF WHO PARTICIPATED APRIL 1964  
DISCUSSIONS AT VIENNA ON SAFEGUARDS, AWARE BACKGROUND  
EFFORTS ESTABLISH SAFEGUARDS PRINCIPLES AND SYSTEM AS  
WELL AS GENERAL ARGENTINE SUPPORT FOR THAT U.S. POLICY  
OBJECTIVE. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. POSITION  
IN MATTER BUT NOTED THAT THEY COULD NOT COMMIT GOA HOLD RESPONSE  
TO OUR APPROACH UNTIL FONOFF HAS OPPORTUNITY

EXAMINE MATTER WITH ARGENTINE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION.

GP-1. MARTIN  
BT  
CFN 1964 1

SECRET

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS  
PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

Buenos Aires 578