

June 3, 1965

**Cable 7659 from the Department of State to the US
Embassy in the United Kingdom**

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Summary:

In a conversation with one or two State Department officials, a British Embassy officer notes that reports available to both governments estimate Israel's purchases of uranium to add up to 190 tons and proposed a joint US-British approach to Argentina on safeguards.

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British Embassy officer June 2 raised with Department question of purchases by Israel of enriched Uranium ore in Argentina. Noted reports available both governments that Israel's purchases now amounted to 190 tons. British scientists say this in excess of needs for research. Recalled Prime Minister Eshkol's position during London visit that Israel would not be first to introduce atomic weapon in Near East but must retain capability if circumstances required and said Foreign Office wished to explore possibility of either joint or parallel demarche to Argentinians seeking to insure safeguards on uranium ore sales to Israel.

Department officer replied that previous approaches to GOA have not produced satisfactory results but that Department would consider whether to join in further effort in Buenos Aires and would be back in touch.

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END

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