

April 28, 1961

State Department Telegram 798 to US Embassy Tel Aviv

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Summary:

Israelis have been informed of the details of US visit to Dimona.

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Dept advised Israeli Embassy Apr 27 US prepared accept recent invitation send US scientists visit Dimona reactor week beginning May 15. US nominees Ulysses Staebler, Asst Director AEC Division Reactor Development and Jesse Croach, Heavy water expert employed by Dupont at AEC Savannah River Lab.

Israelis have stipulated complete secrecy must be maintained both before and for some time after visit. Dept and AEC agreeable to quiet unpublicized visit but have warned Embassy even extreme efforts cannot guarantee secrecy and are likely be unproductive and encourage and give plausibility to speculation. In accepting invitation we again suggested two AEC scientists make routine ~~secret~~ unpublicized trip of 2 to 4 days for consultations

Israelis scientists and visits atomic installations with Dimona visit merely incidental element. Emboff agreed present this approach his government and talk further with us regarding best

Drafted by: S/AE: P. Farley; reg 4/28/61

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arrangements. Dept agreed continue take every precaution against leaks or publicity.

Will advise you when precise dates visit and final arrangements agreed. Embassy comments welcome. Dept most eager have visit without delay but skeptical of feasibility or wisdom of ground rules/proposed by Israelis. re secrecy

Bowles -
asked

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