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(Drafting Office and Officer)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

SECRET

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DATE: October 23, 1962

21
I of III

SUBJECT: ~~Dimona Reactor~~ ^{884a, 1901}

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NW 42247
EXEMPT 03/18/15
10/23/62

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Denis Speares, British Embassy

NE - Mr. Robert Strong

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Amembassy LONDON
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Mr. Speares came in at the request of Mr. Strong who stated that shortly US intelligence people would provide UK intelligence a more detailed briefing; But first we wished to inform the UK at the political level of the results, in general terms, of the recent brief visit of American scientists to the Dimona reactor. We believe it justified to renew our confirmation of June 1961 of Israel's assurances that the reactor is intended for peaceful uses only. There is no sign of preparation for weapons production. Work is proceeding normally, and the critical date may be earlier than the two years from now predicted by the Israelis. In Washington, only the Canadians are being informed. Nasser is being informed very shortly, and in a few days a circular instruction will be sent to much the same list of posts as last time, under which they will inform local leaders at a high level, in confidence.

Mr. Speares expressed appreciation for the information. He had no questions.

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
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EO 12958, 25X
IFS/CR/IR by Shaw Date: JUL 18 2000

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