OUTGOING TELEGRAM
Department of State
SECRET

ACTION: Amembassy TEL AVIV
INFO: USUN

STATE
EXDIS

1. During Rabin's June 4 call at Dept (septel), Under Secretary Rostow expressed pleasure with Israeli payment of Liberty death claims and with GOI statement in UN on NPT.
2. Re NPT, Rabin said he wanted to convey central point of GOI thinking on this matter. Israel believed it would be a mistake in present situation to make clear to Arabs that they faced no Israeli nuclear threat. If Israel removed the question mark from this issue, it would remove a factor which Arabs must now consider in approaching a peace settlement. Problem was therefore a psychological one rather than question of whether or not Israel should have nuclear weapons.

END

Classified by:
Eugene V. Rostow

NEA - Lucius D. Battle
S/S - Mr. Meehan

SECRET