SUBJECT:

Canadian authorities reported agreement between Argentine Republic and Israel for
delivery of 10 tons of uranium concentrate over period 23 months.
The Canadian Intelligence Authorities have informed the Defence Intelligence Staff that the Argentine Republic and Israel have signed an agreement for the sale of the entire Argentine production of uranium concentrate to Israel. This involves the transfer of 80-100 tons of concentrate over a period of 33 months. This means that Israel now has undertaken supplies of uranium free of safeguards.

2. If recent evidence leads us to suppose, the Israelis have adequate facilities for plutonium separation it now appears on a very rough estimate that she would have enough plutonium to fuel a nuclear bomb beginning after between 18 and 20 months from the date when the Dimona reactor became critical, that is to say in June or August 1965.

3. Although this information is unconfirmed we know that last November the Argentine were looking for a buyer for their uranium. If you or Buenos Aires can obtain any confirmation of it we should be very grateful. Since this is Canadian information we are not in a position to hand it over to the Americans. We understand that the Canadians are reluctant to do so because the Americans have refused them information on their recent inspection there supposed to the Canadian High Commission. But this might be unhelpful to the Canadians about this.

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4. This information does not of course prove that the Israelis are making a nuclear bomb but their anxiety to obtain such a large quantity of safeguard-free uranium suggests that they have some bad motives. Although the evidence is all circumstantial it is beginning to be overwhelming.

5. I am copying this letter to Andland in Buenos Aires, Waitland in Cairo, Rasbotham in Paris, Wright in Washington and Arkell in the Defence Intelligence Staff, and Rappo at the CRD.

SECRET AND GUARD
The Canadian Intelligence authorities have informed the Defence Intelligence Staff that the Argentine Republic and Israel have signed an agreement for the sale of the entire Argentine production of uranium concentrate to Israel. This involves the transfer of 60-100 tons of concentrate over a period of 13 months. This means that Israel now has virtually unlimited supplies of uranium free of safeguards.

2. If, as recent evidence leads us to suppose, the Israelis have facilities for plutonium separation it now appears on a very rough estimate that she could have enough plutonium to fuel a nuclear bomb after between 18 and 20 months from the beginning of this year when the Dimona reactor became critical, that is to say in June or August 1965.

3. Although this information is unconfirmed we know that last November the Argentines were looking for a buyer for their uranium. If you or Buenos Aires can obtain any confirmation of it we should be very grateful. Since this is Canadian information we are not in a position to hand it over to the Americans. We understand that the Canadians are reluctant to do this because the Americans have refused them information on their recent inspection of Dimona; I have suggested to the Canadian High Commission here that this is perhaps short-sighted.

4. This information does not of course prove that the Israelis are making a nuclear bomb but their anxiety to obtain such a large quantity of safeguard-free uranium suggests that they have sinister motives. Although the evidence is all circumstantial it is beginning to be overwhelming.

5. I am copying this letter to Atland in Buenos Aires, Maltland in Cairo, Rancebotham in Paris, Wright in Washington, Arkell in the Defence Intelligence Staff, and Redpath at the C.O.C.

(A.G. Goodison)

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TEL AVIV.

SECRET AND GUARD