CFPF, 1967-69 BOX 2649 Are 1840 (ISA) 1-1-67

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT

SECRET

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy TEL AVIV

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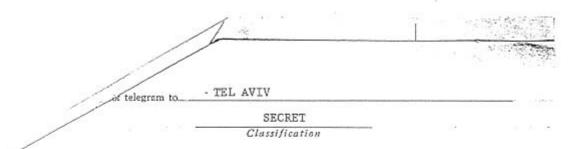
FROM SECRETARY TO AMBASSADOR BARBOUR - au 11-2 fer

Your A-478 describing conversations with two Israeli contacts suggests Israel could be much closer to nuclear weapons capability than we had supposed. We are requesting urgent assessment these and other recent reports by Washington intelligence community. While we will reserve judgment pending outcome that assessment, potential implication these reports makes it even more pressing to obtain response from Eshkol on our request for visit to Dimona. You will recall that on January 16 he promised invitation would be forthcoming QTE within a few weeks UNQTE. You should inform Prime Minister that highest levels of USG are aware you requested GOI agreement to visit as long ago as November and are frankly disturbed at

NEA:IAI:MSterher:fah:2/21/67 4525 The Secretary NEA/IAI - Mr. Atherton (NEA - Mr. Handrey S/S - Mr. O'Donohue O'S ACDA - Dr. Rochlin (sub SCI - Mr. Trevithick (Subs) House -Mr. Wrigeria ACDA - Dr. Rochlin (subs) 23/4-CRA, JANCOTAN BHT TA (350U0024SE 

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lack of GOI response. We hope Prime Minister will be able set datem for visit in very near future.

GP-1.

End

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