INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

5 SECRET Action ESA 981EXX 794VV . BAA512 SCI RR RUEHCR DE RUESBA 317 30/2108Z R 302043Z ZEA 1964 NOV 30 PM 4 51 Info FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES SS TO RUEHCRISECSTATE WASHDC INFO RUOMVL/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV G STATE GRNC SP BT L SECRET ARA **EUR** ACTION DEPT 749 INFO TELAVIV FIVE VIENNA NINE FROM BAIRES **NEA** NOV 30. 6 PM IO NSC VIENNA FOR IAEA. INR SUBJECT: SALE OF URANIUM TO ISRAEL. CIA NSA REF: DEPTEL 549. INFO TEL AVIV 436. VIENNA UNN. DAC AEC EMBASSY DELIVERED FOLLOW-UP NOTE TO FONOFF NOVEMBER 27 URGING EARLY RESP HSE TO PREVIOUS INQUIRY WHETHER GOA **RMR** PREPARED APPLY SAFEGUARDS CONNECTION URANIUM SALE TO ISRAEL. IN DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF OFFICIALS, EMBOFF WAS TOLD FONOFF HAD, AS RESULT OUR INQUIRY, MADE FORMAL REQUEST OF GOA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT BUT THAT TO DATE NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED. OFFICIALS ASSURED US FONOFF WOULD PRESS FOR REPLY SOONEST. CFN 749 30 6 549 436 27

PAGE 2 RUESBA 317 S E C Ř E T
ACCORDING TO REMARKS BY OFFICIALS, SENTIMENT IN FONOFF
APPEARS FAVOR APPLICATION SAFEGUARDS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF A
DISPORITION TO BELIEVE THAT COMMON APPLICATION THEREOF
MAY BE EFFECTIVE IN MINIMIZING PROLIFERATION NUCLEAR
WEAPONS BUT, AND PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, BECAUSE GOA
SENSITIVE TO PROBABLY ATTACKS FROM SOME DOMESTIC QUARTERS
AS RESULT SALE. IN THIS VIEW APPLICATION SAFEGUARDS,
AEAST NOMINALLY CONSISTENT WITH THOSE OF IAEA, WOULD
ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING THAT ARGENTINA ENGAGING IN TRANSFER
NUCLEAR MATERIALS ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH PEACEFUL USES
THEREOF AND THUS PLACE BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON TRANSACTION.
PROPOSED SALE NOT YET PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE IN ARGENTINA.

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SECRET

-2- 749, NOVEMBER 30, 6 PM, FROM BUENOS AIRES

EMBASSY DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONCLUDE THAT FOREGOING, AND PERHAPS TENTATIVE, FONOFF VIEW NECESSARILY PORTRAYS ULTIMATE GOA POSITION, BUT BELIEVES IT CONSTITUTES REASON TO PROVIDE GOA FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO WORK OUT RESPONSE OUR INQUIRY WITHOUT OUR TAKING, FOR THE MOMENT, FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS AT HIGHEST LEVELS HERE OR AT TEL AVIV. IN VIEW QUIHILLALT'S SENSITIVITY TO OUR APPROACHING ISRAELIS BEFORE MATTER

PAGE 3 RUESBA 317 S E C R E T THOROUGHLY EXAMINED BY GOA, WE BELIEVE APPROACH AT TEL AVIV UNLIKELY TO AFFECT GOA DECISION FAVORABLY.

QUIHILLALT HAS DEPARTED BAIRES FOR VIENNA. EMBASSY UNDERTAKING DETERMINE FROM CNEA IF ITS POSITION THIS MATTER FIRMED UP BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

GP-1. MARTIN

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