

Reilly *Mr. Korman*

SECRET

February 12, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

The Israeli sounding rocket fired in July 1961 is the only firing to date. Israel has not allowed us to inspect this program. [redacted]

[redacted] We think Israel behind the UAlt, but with a major effort plus foreign help Israel could have a few 200-300 mile missiles in 3-4 years (NIE 30-63).

In fact, Israel has recently been quite active in trying to recruit foreign scientists (including US), which suggests it is contemplating such an effort.

The Dimona reactor was last inspected by us in November; banking on Golda Meir's assurance to you, we are planning a better look in the next month or so. NIE 30-63 estimates that Israel, unless deterred by outside pressure, will attempt to produce a weapon sometime in the next several years, and could have a very limited capability by 1967-68. This underlines the utility of some arms control initiative along the lines suggested in Rostow's paper.

R. W. KORMAN

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