

~~Air Priority~~
PRIORITY

~~SECRET~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
(Security Classification)

TO ~~MR. [unclear]~~
DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
884A.1901/11-3060
DEC. 1 1960

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : American Embassy Tel Aviv 311

COPY NO. 1 DESP. NO. 1 SERIES A
DATE November 30, 1960

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

Paris Embtel 2162 to Dept.

REF : CERP, Section D, VII B 1
Embtel 467

This document consists of 2 pages, copy 1 of 4 copies. Series A

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	REC'D	OTHER
	12-6-60	RMR INR EUR NEA IO D PARIS AFC

SUBJECT: Research and Training Program in Field of Atomic Energy

There is transmitted herewith a memorandum of conversation between Dr. Henry J. Gomberg, Director, Phoenix Project, University of Michigan, and Embassy officers.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

John F. Shaw
John F. Shaw
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Memorandum of Conversation

11/9 No action required
File
Peter Rutter
S/AE

19-6-1
1960
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY
S/AE
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, C

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
Retain class'n Change/classify to
Declassify with concurrence of STAT
after 2025
BO 12958, 25X
IPS/CR/IR by *[Signature]* Date: JUL 14 2000

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NW 42247
By Dm/BET, NND, Date 2/7/15

Copy No(s) Dest'd. please pass: AnEmbassy Paris

FILMED
JAN 4 1961

JFShaw:mr
REPORTER

~~SECRET~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

ACTION COPY - DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 94951A

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with

884A.1901/11-3060
CAA CLASSIFIED FILE

Some documents must be forwarded to the RMR Central File

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Research and Training Program in Field of Atomic Energy

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. Henry J. Gomberg, Director, Phoenix Project -
University of Michigan,
Ambassador O. R. Reid,
Mr. John F. Shaw

PLACE: American Embassy Tel Aviv

Dr. Henry J. Gomberg called at the Embassy to explain that he had come to Israel as an ICA/USOM advisor to assist Technion in developing a training program which would keep Israel scientists informed and abreast of developments in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

He stated his consultations have led him to believe that Israel is engaged in a very broad range of activities in this field and is pursuing projects which they were not prepared to discuss with him. His suspicions he said were based upon utilization of some 30 graduates from a familiarization program which operated at Technion sometime ago and Israel's strong interest in plutonium; this interest, he said, is measured in gram amounts which he considered to be significant since amounts of this size could conceivably find use in weapons. In response to the Ambassador's query, he thought it was conceivable that Israel could have weapon capability in this field in less than 10 years.

Dr. Gomberg seemed to be of the opinion that the French were working with Israel on the construction of a nuclear power plant here, but he had not been given any information on the plant.

Following the meeting with the Ambassador, Dr. Gomberg called upon Dr. Ernst D. Bergmann, Chairman, Israel's Atomic Energy Commission. Following this meeting, which he characterized as very friendly, he reported to an Embassy officer that Dr. Bergmann had stated that Ben Gurion would be making an announcement pertaining to Israel's atomic energy program within about three weeks.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 949509