

SECRET

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

PAGE 01 STATE 159555 TOSEC 040293  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 /000 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:JLHIRSCH:MGK  
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES  
S/S-O : DASANDBERG  
INR:RSPIERS  
S/S:LPBREMER, III.

-----073650 180231Z /60

O 180210Z JUN 81 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 159555 TOSEC 040293  
DECAPTIONED

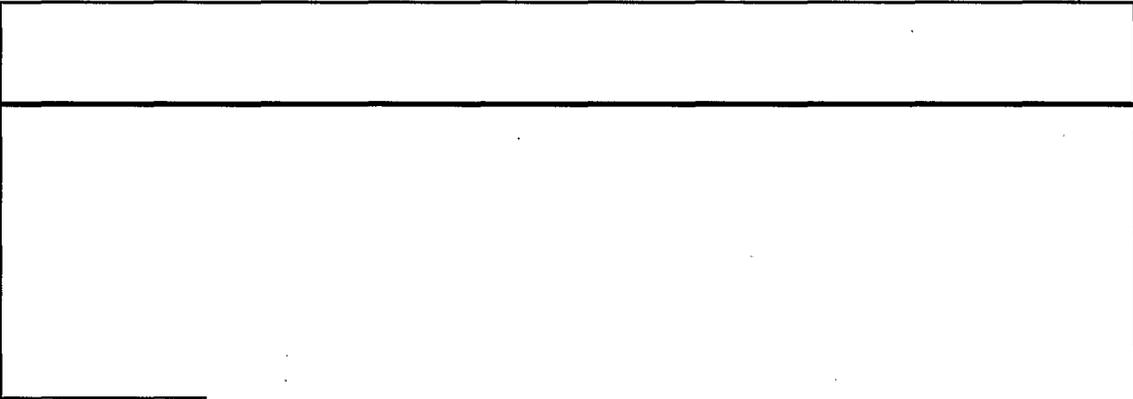
NODIS  
E.O. 12065: RDS 1,3 6/16/11 (STOESSEL, WALTER)

TAGS: PEPR, US, IS

SUBJECT: EVRON-VELIOTES DISCUSSION OF IRAQI NUCLEAR ISSUE

1. SECRET ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING THE DELIVERY TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
OF BEGIN'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT, EVRON, ACCOMPANIED BY  
NEHUSHTAN AND BENTSUR, MET WITH VELIOTES AND HIRSCH ON  
JUNE 16 AT 5:30 P.M. MAIN TOPIC OF THE MEETING WAS  
ISRAELI PERCEPTION OF HOW THE U.S. MEDIA WAS PLAYING THE  
U.S. AND ISRAELI EVALUATIONS OF THE IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY,



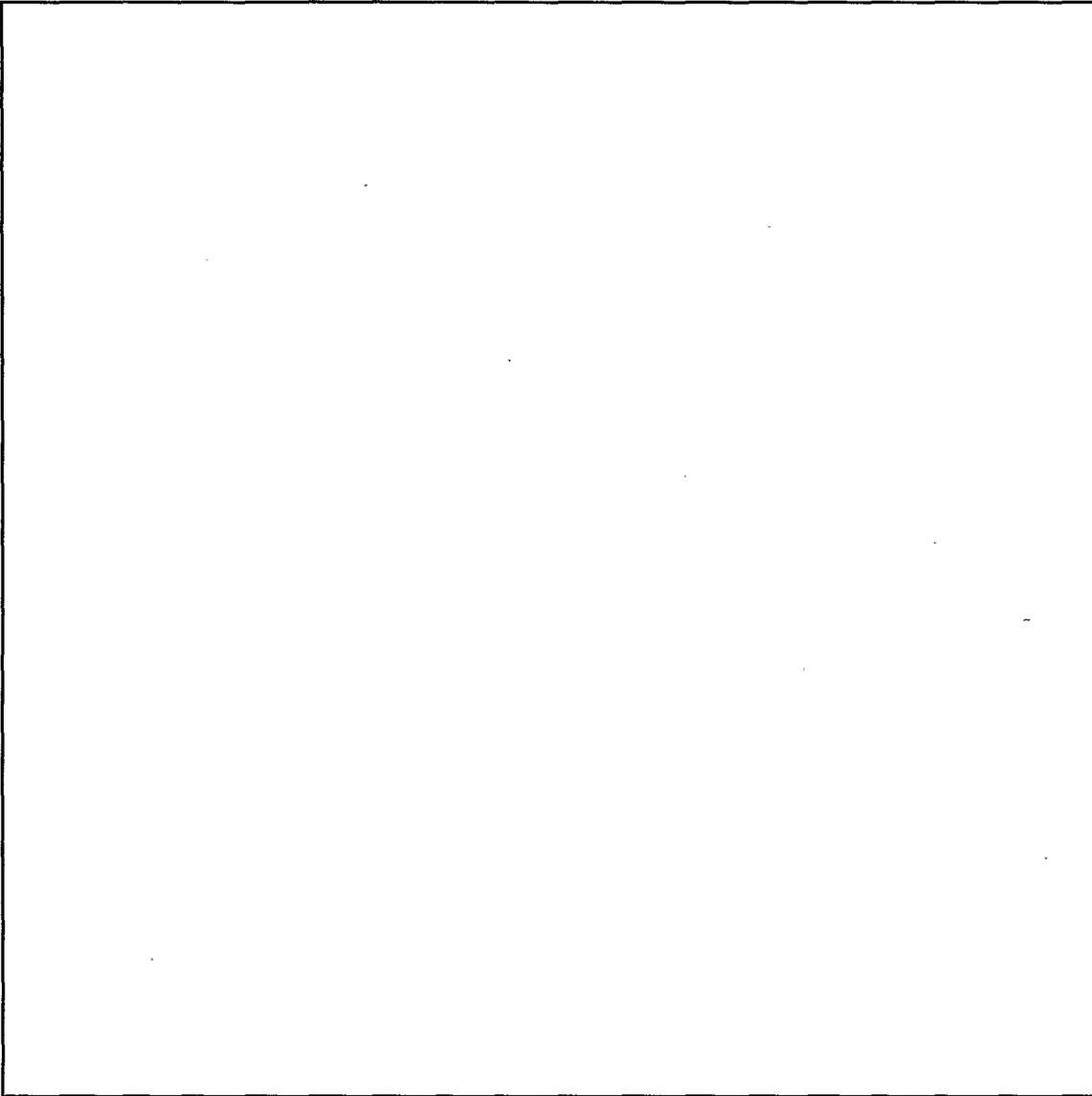
AND STRESSED THAT OUR DECEMBER 17, 1980 ASSESS-  
MENT RELATED TO ONGOING ACTIVITIES AT THE IRAQI FACILITY  
AND CONCERN ABOUT THE POTENTIAL OF THE PROGRAM BUT NOT TO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS  
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 25X6  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 17 JUN 2011  
DATE/CASE ID: 23 JAN 2006 200304282

B1

UNCLASSIFIED

ANY DEFINITIVE FINDING ON LONG TERM IRAQI INTENTIONS.  
THESE EXCHANGES COULD NOT BE USED TO JUSTIFY ISRAEL'S  
ACTION. END SUMMARY.



B1

5. VELIOTES SAID THAT EVRON'S IMPRESSION OF THE MEDIA  
COVERAGE DID NOT CORRESPOND WITH OUR OWN. WE HAD MADE  
CLEAR, BOTH IN THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENTS AND IN  
OUR BRIEFINGS TO THE CONGRESS, THAT WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT  
THE IRAQI PROGRAM IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR GLOBAL NON-  
PROLIFERATION POLICY. IT IS SIMPLY UNTRUE TO SAY THAT WE  
HAVE TRIED TO HIDE OR DISTORT OUR CONCERNS.

B1



UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

6. VELIOTES THEN TURNED TO SIGNIFICANCE OF LEWIS' STATEMENT TO BEGIN LAST DECEMBER 17 THAT OUR ASSESSMENTS OF THE IRAQI PROGRAM ARE VERY CLOSE. LEWIS HAD INDICATED THAT OUR ASSESSMENT OF WHAT WAS ACTUALLY HAPPENING AT THE PRESENT TIME AT THE REACTOR SITE WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE ISRAELI ONE. WE ALSO HAD EXPRESSED OUR CONCERNS ABOUT - THE POTENTIAL OF THE IRAQI PROGRAM. BUT WE HAD NEVER REACHED A DEFINITIVE CONCLUSION ABOUT IRAQ'S LONG TERM INTENTIONS. THESE EXCHANGES, THEREFORE, COULD NOT BE USED TO JUSTIFY THE ISRAELI ACTION. (INEARLIERMEETING WITH NEHUSHTAN, SPIERS MADE SAME POINTS.)

7. VELIOTES CONTINUED THAT ISRAEL HAD TO RECOGNIZE THAT THERE WAS HIGH-LEVEL CONCERN IN WASHINGTON AT THE ISRAELI SURPRISE ACTION IN DESTROYING THE NUCLEAR FACILITY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 159555 TOSEC 040293

[REDACTED]

8. EVRON ASKED FOR A READOUT ON THE SITUATION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOW THE U.S. WOULD VOTE. VELIOTES SAID THAT A NON-ALIGNED DRAFT WAS UNDER REVIEW IN WASHINGTON. AT THE SAME TIME, WE UNDERSTOOD THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONTINUING IN NEW YORK ON THE TEXT. WE HAD MADE OUR POSITION CLEAR. WE WOULD VETO ANY RESOLUTION SEEKING TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS. BUT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO VOTE FOR A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE ISRAELI ATTACK.

[REDACTED]

9. BEFORE GETTING INTO THE DISCUSSION ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE, EVRON ASKED FOR OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE SAUDI ATTITUDE TOWARD THE HABIB MISSION AND ITS PROSPECTS. NEHUSHTAN COMMENTED THAT HE HAD SEEN A SAUDI EDITORIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

SAYING THAT THE MISSION WAS NOW USELESS. VELIOTES SAID THAT WAS NOT AT ALL THE SAUDI ATTITUDE. THE SAUDIS HAD TOLD HABIB THAT THEY SHARED OUR GOAL OF FINDING A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION, AND WANTED THE MISSION TO CONTINUE. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY MADE CLEAR THAT THE ISRAELI STRIKE ON THE IRAQI FACILITY HAS COMPLICATED THE SITUATION. VELIOTES SAID WE DID NOT YET HAVE A REPORT OF HABIB'S DISCUSSIONS IN DAMASCUS. HE WOULD-BE MEETING WITH BEGIN EITHER JUNE 17 OR 18. WE CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO HABIB'S  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 159555 TOSEC 040293

EFFORTS TO FIND A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION TO THE LEBANON PROBLEM.  
STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

N VVZCZ

UNCLASSIFIED