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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation AE

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PART II OF II

DATE:

September 16, 1963

SUBJECT: U.S. Arrangements for Dimona Visits

Mr. John B. Killick, Counselor, British Embassy

NEA: NE - Rodger P. Davies

NEA: NE - H. Earle Russell, Jr.

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Mr. Davies said he wished to pass to the British Embassy on a basis of strict confidence information regarding the Dimona reactor. He referred to Mr. Grant's earlier statement that two visits to the reactor site had been arranged and indicated that the Israelis had agreed to a third visit prior to activation of the reactor. While we did not anticipate difficulty in arranging further semi-annual visits to the site, agreement on this point had not yet been reached. We hoped to inspect the reactor complex quite thoroughly, including such facilities as fuel fabrication and plutonium separation plants. The Israelis have again assured us that the reactor is strictly for peaceful purposes, and we are inclined to believe this is the case.

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