



POLICY

~~SECRET~~

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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

I-23453/81

October 30, 1981

#7  
-I-23453/81

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: JUL 27 2018.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: "Strategic" Talks with Israel -- DECISION  
MEMORANDUM (U)

(S) As you recall, in your discussion with MOD Sharon you made it clear that talks on the "strategic cooperation" would be delayed if the President were defeated on AWACS. At the same time we agreed in the joint communique on the Sharon visit that joint planning groups would commence work on several issues and that you would meet with Sharon "in the near future" to review the work of these groups.

(S) Shortly before the AWACS vote, Frank Carlucci and I again told Evron that defeat of the President on AWACS would force us to redesign our Mid East policy and hence delay "strategic cooperation" talks with Israel. By implication we indicated, if the vote went our way, there would be no obstacle to getting into these talks.

(S) To be consistent with the President's message to Begin after the AWACS vote, and with our earlier commitments to the Israelis, I believe we now should agree to set up a DoD-MOD working group to develop an agenda of suitable items for "strategic cooperation" (and to remove from the agenda some of Sharon's unsuitable suggestions). The working group would prepare for a meeting between you and Sharon at a date yet to be determined.

Fred C. Ikle

DECISION

Agree \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
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Declassify October 30, 1987

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