

September 17, 1977

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

SUBJECT: Possible Israeli-South African  
Nuclear Connection

As I mentioned to you yesterday, the response to Ambassador Lewis' question on the above subject seems incomplete. It is confined to the present. It says nothing about the past record or the intentions of the present government.

These exclusions are so apparent that, should awkward past connections or future relations develop, we could find it difficult to explain why we had accepted so reserved a response. In that event, enemies of the US, Israel or South Africa could even charge us with indirect complicity.

Any judgment as to when to press the matter involves considerations beyond my purview. I just want to flag this element of risk as I see it.

Gerard Smith

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