

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

I-13433/75 8 JAN 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Interim Reply to Senator Abourezk re Israeli Purchase of Cluster Bombs (U) - ACTION MEMORANDUM

Attached is an interim reply to an inquiry from Senator Abourezk concerning the sale of CBUs to Israel, certain conditions applied thereto, and their possible use against fedayeen targets. An interim reply is necessary because of the necessity to research ISA, METG and intelligence community files back to 1970, a process delayed by the holiday season. Also, we have learned that an identical letter was sent to the Secretary of State. It is believed imperative that the State and DOD replies be coordinated, and it is not possible to obtain necessary clearances and coordination in the normal time frame for Congressional responses.

Atch: a/s

Amos A. Jordan

Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense International Security Affairs



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Tom

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

JAN 1 3 1976

Honorable James Abourezk United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Abourezk:

This is an interim reply to your letter of December 22, 1975, in which you inquire about cluster bombs (CBUs) provided by the United States to the Government of Israel.

CBUs were first provided to Israel in August, 1970, and there have been additional sales since that time. Certain stipulations were placed on the use of these munitions at the time of their sale. I have directed a thorough research of Department of Defense records with respect to the sale of CBUs to Israel, and their use by that country, and I will provide a full response to your inquiries in about two weeks.

Sincerely,

